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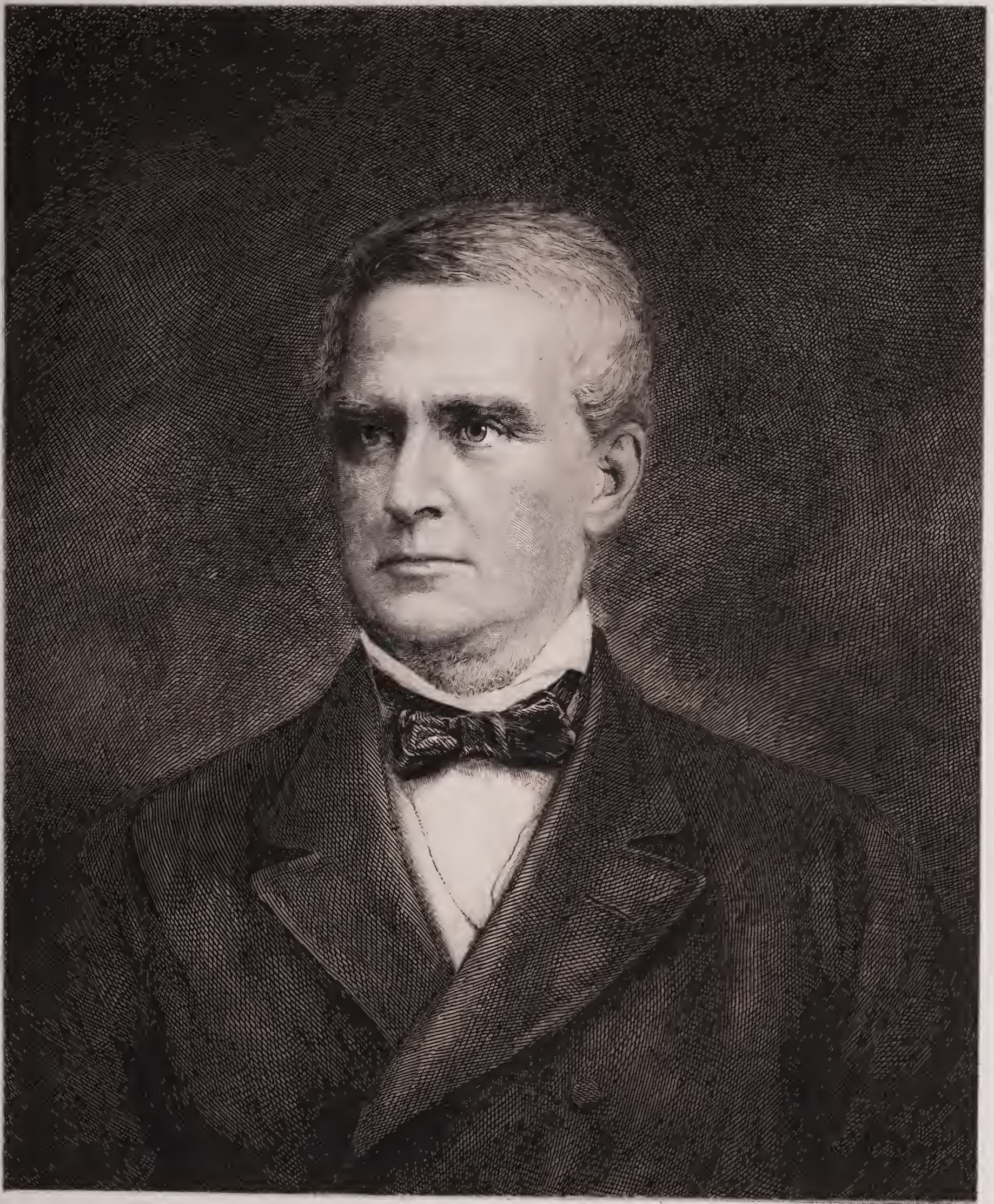
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*Fred. J. Furlinghousen*



# FREDERICK T. FRELINGHUYSEN, LL. D.,

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.



TRUE biography has a nobler purpose than mere fulsome eulogy. The historic spirit faithful to the record, the discerning judgment unmoved by prejudice and uncolored by enthusiasm are as essential in giving the life of the individual as in writing the history of a people. Indeed, the ingenuousness of the former picture is even more vital, because the individual is the national unit, and if the unit be justly estimated the complex organism will become correspondingly intelligible. The world to-day is what the leading men of the last generation have made it. From the past has come the legacy of the present. Art, science, statesmanship, government are accumulations. They constitute an inheritance

upon which the present generation have entered, and the advantages secured from so vast a bequeathment depend entirely upon the fidelity with which is conducted the study of the lives of the principal actors who have transmitted the legacy. This is especially true of those whose influence has passed beyond the confines of locality and permeated the national character. To such a careful study are the life, character and services of the late Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, preëminently entitled, not only on the part of the student of biography but of every citizen who, guided by the past, would in the present wisely build for the future.

Frederick Theodore Frelinghuysen, who rose to the distinction of being secretary of state in President Arthur's cabinet, was born in the village of Millstone, in the county of Somerset, state of New Jersey, on the 4th day of August, 1817. His honored ancestry, distinguished for piety, eloquence and patriotism, traces back, in direct line, to the Rev. Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen, who was born in Holland and there educated and ordained to the ministry in the Reformed Dutch church. In the year 1720 this pious ancestor emigrated to America, in obedience to a call from the Dutch churches of America to the classis of Amsterdam. In his ministry in this country he occupied almost the entire county of Somerset, with parts of Middlesex and Hunterdon, as the field of his missionary labors. He was laborious, devoted, successful. His motto, found inscribed upon a small collection of his sermons printed in 1733, was "*Laudem non quero; Culpam non timeo*,"—"I ask not praise; I fear not blame." In a successful ministry of more than a quarter of a century he stamped upon the religious faith and character of the Holland inhabitants of Somerset county an impress which is traceable down the generations to the present day. His undaunted attitude toward the colonial courts of magistracy in the encroachments of the Church of England upon the Reformed Dutch faith and polity was characteristic of the deep spirit of religious freedom with which he was inspired and which he transmitted to his descendants. He had five sons ordained to the ministry and two daughters who married ministers.

The second of the five sons was Rev. John Frelinghuysen, who was educated and ordained in Holland and succeeded to the labors of his father in 1750, with his residence in Somerville. Here he established a preparatory and divinity school, which became the nucleus of a college, and from which, through one of his pupils, the Rev. Dr. Hardenburg, was evolved Queen's College, now Rutgers, of which Dr. Hardenburg became the first president. The Rev. John Frelinghuysen was a man of brill-

iant gifts, and was popular and successful as a preacher. He died suddenly in 1754, leaving a wife, who was the daughter of a wealthy and distinguished East India merchant residing at Amsterdam. Her name was Dinah Van Berg. She was a very remarkable and highly gifted Christian woman, and subsequently, as the wife of Dr. Hardenburg, was known in all the Dutch churches in Holland and America.

The son of Rev. John Frelinghuysen and Dinah Van Berg was General Frederick Frelinghuysen, of Revolutionary fame, who was born in Somerville, April 13, 1753. He is, in this sketch, the central representative, being the grandson of the ancestor and the grandfather of the late secretary of state. He graduated at Princeton in the class of 1770 and was a classmate of President James Madison and S. Stanhope Smith, D. D., LL. D., who later became president of Princeton. He was admitted to the bar of New Jersey, became a member of the provincial congress of New Jersey, of the committee of safety, and was a member of the continental congress at different times. He was captain of a corps



THE OLD FRELINGHUYSEN HOMESTEAD, MILLSTONE, NEW JERSEY.

of artillery in the Revolutionary war and took part in the battles of Trenton and Monmouth. He was afterward made major-general of the militia in the Whisky rebellion, and was a member of the United States senate, from New Jersey, from 1793 to 1796. He died in 1804, highly honored and eulogized. He left three sons, General John Frelinghuysen, Theodore Frelinghuysen, and Frederick Frelinghuysen,—all men of public distinction and reputation.

General John Frelinghuysen was a graduate of Queen's College, was frequently a member of the state council, and under the old constitution was popular in politics. Military in tastes, he commanded a regiment at Sandy Hook, in the war of 1812, and in the absence of the chaplain officiated as such himself. He was for years surrogate of the county of Somerset and held numerous private and public trusts.

Theodore Frelinghuysen, the second son, who achieved high distinction as an educator, as well as a jurist and statesman, was the uncle of the distinguished secretary, whom he had adopted as a son. He graduated at Princeton. It has been said of him: "His name was enshrined in the popular heart. He was the Christian's model man, an eloquent senator, an eminent jurist, a patriotic statesman and, in his later years, an educator of young men in college." At the time of his death he was president of Rutgers College and was revered for his greatness and goodness combined.

Frederick Frelinghuysen, the youngest of the three sons of General Frederick and the father of the late Secretary, was born in Millstone November 7, 1788. He, too, was educated at Princeton, and being admitted to the bar commenced practice in his native town of Millstone, where he rapidly acquired a lucrative practice and brilliant reputation. Though suddenly stricken down by death in his thirty-second year, he is remembered as a natural orator, with a fervid imagination, a buoyant temperament, and as possessing great power over juries. He died suddenly in 1820, leaving surviving him his young widow, daughter of Peter B. Dumont, Esq., who owned a valuable plantation on the south bank of the Raritan, near Somerville; and



also leaving three daughters and two sons, the younger son being Frederick Theodore Frelinghuysen, the late secretary of state in President Arthur's cabinet.

Young Frederick was only three years of age when his father died, and immediately thereafter he was adopted by his uncle Theodore and taken to live with him in Newark. It is especially satisfactory to record that, inheriting his father's natural gifts, his eloquent speech and fervid emotions, and partaking of the refinement and comeliness of his mother, whose heart was ever filled with ambitious aspirations for the honorable career of her son, the loss of his father could not have been more fully compensated than it was, by the care and custody of the little boy in the guardianship of his distinguished uncle, who, having no children of his own, lavished upon him all the means that could be employed in his training and culture. His preparatory education alternated between the academy at Newark and the academy at Somerville. He entered Rutgers College as a sophomore and graduated in the class of 1836, a class conspicuous for names that subsequently became eminent. While a student in college Mr. Frelinghuysen's prepossessing personal appearance, his tall, slender figure, neatly attired, his handsome, glowing face, together with a dignified and manly bearing, gave him a singularly attractive and impressive presence. John F. Hageman, a classmate, speaking of him at this time says: "His natural talents were of a high order, but he had no specialties in his studies, no genius for the higher mathematics, no special fondness for the physical sciences. While his standing was good in the classics and in the general studies prescribed, it was evident that he enjoyed most the branches of mental and moral philosophy, logic and rhetoric. Oratory had a charm for him. He seemed to have a prescience of the path in life he was destined to pursue, and all his studies were subordinated to that end."

Upon graduation Mr. Frelinghuysen entered at once upon the study of law in the office of his uncle Theodore, at Newark. The advantages and training which he received here were of exceptional value. His uncle was a lawyer of the highest rank, learned in his profession and a most persuasive and powerful advocate, his legal ability having won for him the eminent distinction of the attorney-generalship of his native state. After three years of study the subject of this memoir was admitted to the bar as attorney, and three years later, in 1842, he was admitted as counselor.

At this juncture two important events in his history were to be recorded,—the public profession of his religious faith, by which he formed ecclesiastical relations with the church of his ancestors, the Reformed Dutch church, and secondly, his marriage to Miss Matilda Griswold, the accomplished daughter of George A. Griswold, a wealthy and conspicuous merchant of New York city. These two relations, the church and the home, ever afterward held the heart of Mr. Frelinghuysen, and were his chief joy to the day of his death.

Mr. Frelinghuysen stood on high vantage ground at the very start of his professional career in Newark. Succeeding to the office and library of his uncle, whither the old clients of the elder Frelinghuysen were accustomed to resort for professional services, now that his uncle had become chancellor of the University of New York, the young attorney was welcomed as the representative successor of the venerable jurist and senator, loved and revered for so many years; and he received the sympathy and support of the business men,—the merchants and the manufacturers of Newark. A host of influential friends gathered around him. The religious classes cherished an affection for his name; the Newark bar took him into their special favor, and the whole community bestowed upon him their plaudits and good will. Besides, the helping hand and warm recognition of such men as Chief-Justice Hornblower, Asa Whitehead, Elias Van Arsdale, Governor Pennington, John P. Jackson, Oliver S. Halsted and many other leading lawyers were extended to him. He was soon appointed city attorney, an office bringing him in contact with the industrial classes and securing for him a general interest in the government and business of the city. His early appointment as the retained counsel of the New Jersey Central Railroad Company and the Morris Canal & Banking Company provided a rare field for the development and exhibition of his legal capabilities. Required to appear before courts and juries in different counties, in hotly contested suits at law, meeting as antagonists the strongest counsel in the state and abroad, and in the highest courts of the state, within a few years he stood in the foremost rank of the New Jersey bar. He became not only an eloquent advocate, capable of swaying juries, but an able lawyer, preparing and conducting most important cases with strategic skill and eminent success. A formidable antagonist in any cause, civil or criminal, his practice became lucrative and enviable. It is especially noteworthy that in achieving his eminence at the bar he relied not more upon his eloquence and genius than upon the unwearied diligence with which he studied and toiled.

Patriotism was a strong virtue and an inheritance in Mr. Frelinghuysen and he kept well read in the politics of his state and country. He was frequently called to address large political gatherings. As far back as 1840 he was one of the speakers at the Whig state convention, at Trenton,



in the presidential campaign of that memorable year. Having acquired eminent legal distinction, and with an unbroken line of ancestry standing high in the annals of honorable official positions, his ambition to follow in the same path was a logical sequence. It is recorded that the only instance in which he failed to obtain the appointment he desired was in 1857, when he was a candidate for the attorney-generalship of New Jersey, ex-Senator William L. Dayton, who failed in reelection as United States senator, being the successful candidate. But in 1861, Attorney-General Dayton being nominated by President Lincoln as minister to France, Governor Olden, who had in the meantime been elected governor, appointed Mr. Frelinghuysen to the vacant place. In 1866, when the term of the office of attorney-general expired, Marcus L. Ward, who was then governor, renominated Mr. Frelinghuysen for a new term in that office. He filled this office with eminent ability. It was the stormy period of the civil war, and the legislation of that day demanded much special labor, attention and official assistance. During this trying period he spent the most of his time at Trenton, in discharging the duties of his office and bravely sustaining the governor in defending the Union. The years which covered the war of the Rebellion were preëminently an educational period,—one that tested and demanded the profoundest application of the minds of public men to comprehend the principles of civil government and to solve the hard problems that rose out of the attempted secession of states and the question of the rights of freedmen. No one learned more rapidly and thoroughly in this school for making statesmen than did Attorney-General Frelinghuysen, who had already become one of the most popular political speakers in his state, being well read in history and the politics of the country and capable of electrifying the masses when he appeared before them.

Thus prepared, upon the death of William Wright, of Newark, United States senator from New Jersey, in 1866, Governor Ward appointed Mr. Frelinghuysen as Mr. Wright's successor, and he took his seat in the senate in December, 1866. In the winter of 1867 he was elected by the legislature to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Wright, which would end March 4, 1869. At the expiration of his term the legislature of New Jersey was Democratic, but Mr. Frelinghuysen had taken such high rank in the senate and had been so able and eloquent a supporter of President Grant's administration that, in 1870, he was nominated by President Grant, and confirmed by the senate, as minister to England. This honorable position, which the most ambitious public men have so fondly coveted, Mr. Frelinghuysen, singularly enough, declined. The reason, which did not appear until after his death, throws a beautiful side light upon Mr. Frelinghuysen's intense devotion to the purity and simplicity of his home life. It is recorded that he stated in private conversation that he declined "because Mrs. Frelinghuysen was opposed to exposing her children to the influence of court life which the mission would involve," and he yielded to her wish. In 1871, however, there again occurred in the senate a vacancy to be filled from New Jersey for a full term, and the legislature was Republican. The public eye was at once directed toward Mr. Frelinghuysen, and after a spirited struggle in caucus he was elected by the legislature, for a term of six years, from 1871.

It was in the senate that Mr. Frelinghuysen added the choicest laurels to his fame. The senate chamber was admirably adapted to his tastes and qualifications. Versed in the science of law and civil government, possessed of oratorical graces, with keen and skillful dialectic power in debate, of fine presence and dignity of action, conscious of integrity, nerved with indomitable courage blended with faultless Christian courtesy, with an inborn patriotism, and spurred on by ancestral prestige, he entered at once into the honors of the senate and became a prominent and leading member of that august body. He was there during the reconstruction period, when every phase of legislation required the profoundest statesmanship, but he was both ready and ripe, diligent, assiduous and watchful and alert to grapple every new and important question that arose. As a member of the judiciary committee, the finance committee, the committee on naval affairs, the committee on claims and on railroads and as chairman of the committee on agriculture he was charged with a varied and often perplexing responsibility.

During his career in the senate he took part in the impeachment trial of President Johnson, and his judicial opinion, filed in the public record of that court, was brief, clear and convincing. He took a prominent part in the debate on the Washington treaty, and also in the French arms controversy, and he raised his voice emphatically against polygamy as engrafted upon the body politic of Utah. The measure to return to Japan the balance of the indemnity fund not used for the payment of American claims, though just and honorable, was not carried until after a prolonged struggle, and the success of this measure was due to Senator Frelinghuysen's efforts. He introduced the bill to restore a gold currency and he took charge of Mr. Sumner's bill for reconstruction after the Massachusetts statesman had become unable to look after it.



It is impossible in a limited sketch to enter into details concerning even Senator Frelinghuysen's more notable speeches, through which he made a brilliant record for himself and his state. He voted and spoke invariably against the inundation of the flood of bills for relief which were founded upon claims of southern loyalists during the war, and which, if carried to their logical consequences, would have swamped the national treasury. He spoke on the supplementary reconstruction bill, in 1868, with great eloquence and force and with a radicalism born of sagacious conservatism. The situation was a critical one. The constitutional amendments formed the background, and the state governments of the south must be reorganized. The white population refused to reorganize and recognize at the same time the rights guaranteed to the freedman by the constitutional amendments. The alternative on the part of congress was to confer on the freedman full citizenship,—the right to vote and to be voted for. Senator Frelinghuysen, always cautious and conservative, upon this question became as radical as any senator on the Republican side, and brilliantly and with rare logic and force, covering in his arguments both the "sovereignty" of the nation and the constitutionality of the reconstruction laws, not only kept pace with the advance of public sentiment but sagaciously stood for a government which should be the same in every section.

A change in the political party in control of the state retired Senator Frelinghuysen from the senate at the expiration of his term, March 4, 1877; but he was not left long unemployed in the public service of his country. Upon the tragic death of President Garfield, Vice-President Arthur succeeded to the presidency under embarrassing circumstances. His own party, irritated and distracted, extended to him meager sympathy. Under these trying circumstances he invited ex-Senator Frelinghuysen to take the first place in his cabinet, as secretary of state. It would have been difficult for him to place at his right hand a secretary whose education in political science and international law, and whose experience at the bar and in the senate, united with exalted character, so thoroughly qualified him for that high position as those Mr. Frelinghuysen possessed. The foreign policy of the administration was correspondingly pacific and honorable, conciliating but firm. In negotiating international treaties, taking in the scope of the subject matter, anticipating contingencies liable to arise in the far future, adjusting the conflicting interests of industries, revenues and commerce of nations, Secretary Frelinghuysen, in labor and responsibility, sustained the heaviest burden of his life. The two treaties that cost the secretary the most exhaustive labor in their general provisions were probably the Spanish treaty, which President Arthur submitted for ratification near the close of his term, and the great treaty involving the building of the Nicaragua canal. Both failed of ratification. The preparation and procurement of the latter international document will ever remain a monument to Secretary Frelinghuysen's skill, industry and statesmanship, standing alike creditable to himself and to the department of state. This survey of the early and political career of the late secretary has necessarily been rapid and fragmentary, but a volume of details would have continued to challenge only respect and admiration.

As in public so in private life Secretary Frelinghuysen was a model man. At home he was the center of the affections of his family; in the church, which was his supreme delight, he was a pillar; on the platform of religious associations, at Sunday-school and Bible-society anniversaries, he was from early manhood a familiar, popular and eloquent speaker. At the time of his death he was president of the American Bible Society. The religious element in his character was positive and of a high type. A close student of the Bible, reposing in the orthodox faith of his fathers, he was yet free from cant and narrowness and preserved throughout his public, as in his private career, the preëminent Christian character.

The broader fields of his activity did not preclude his interest in and sympathy with the lesser and more local institutions. Schools, public libraries, young men's associations received his sympathy and assistance, and in higher education he was ever mindful of his *alma mater*, serving on her board of trustees for thirty-four years, from 1851. He seldom addressed literary societies, a notable



FRELINGHUYSEN MONUMENT,  
Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Newark.



exception being an oration before the literary societies of Princeton College in 1862, followed by the conferring upon him by that institution of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

On the 4th of March, 1885, upon the inauguration of a new administration, Mr. Frelinghuysen surrendered his seat in the cabinet to his successor, Secretary Bayard. Laden with honors, he took with him the gratitude of his countrymen for his distinguished services. Apparently he had enjoyed uniform good health, but the removal of his public official burdens revealed his bodily waste and weakness. He went from the cabinet to his home in Newark and to his dying bed. He was too ill to receive the congratulations and welcome of his fellow citizens, who had thronged his home to greet his return. He fell into a comatose state, and in that condition the eminent statesman lay for several weeks, self-conscious, but almost dead to the world. Day after day, for many weeks, expressions of sympathy and anxiety were telegraphed from all parts of the country, and the metropolitan press announced, by hourly bulletins, the reports of his attending physicians. The end came. He died on the 20th of May, 1885, sixty-eight years of age, leaving a wife, three sons,—Frederick, George Griswold and Theodore,—and three daughters,—Miss Tille, Miss Lucy and Mrs. John Davis.

Public expressions of sorrow and sympathy were numerous and eulogistic. The press, local, metropolitan and over the country, gave unwonted space to obituary, historical and editorial notices of the sad event and of the eminent public citizen. The Historical Society, then in session at Newark, not only expressed in elaborate resolutions their appreciation of his public services and their admiration of his high character, but attended the funeral in a body. The Newark bar did likewise. Secretary Bayard, of the department of state at Washington, the governor of New Jersey and the mayor of Newark all issued official proclamations announcing his death, and, besides paying high tribute to his memory, personally attended his funeral. Resolutions of sympathy and eulogy were adopted by the trustees of Rutgers College, by the church of which he was a member, by the American Bible Society, of which he was president, by other local Bible societies and also by numerous other public bodies,—religious, benevolent, political and financial,—expressing their love and reverence for his life, character and services.

The obsequies were held in the North Reformed church, in Newark, on the afternoon of the 23d of May. Brief services were held at the house, previous to the gathering at the church, at which only the family, immediate relatives and intimate friends were assembled. Among those present were: Ex-President Arthur, Senator Sewell, the Russian, French, Brazilian and Mexican ministers; Rev. Dr. Campbell, ex-president of Rutgers College; Comptroller Anderson; Mayor Haynes; Frederick H. Potts; Colonel McMichael Marshall, of the District of Columbia, who represented the president; Judge Joel Parker and the distinguished bearers. The church was filled with the prominent men of state,—officials and private citizens, members and ex-members of the diplomatic corps, bringing tributes of sorrow and praise to his memory,—a vast assemblage of the great and good, mourning his death with sincerest grief. At the conclusion of the services, in the silence of the city, with its flags drooping in sympathy with a population in mourning, his mortal remains were solemnly carried by distinguished men to the tomb prepared for the body, in Mt. Pleasant cemetery, and were there left buried in flowers.

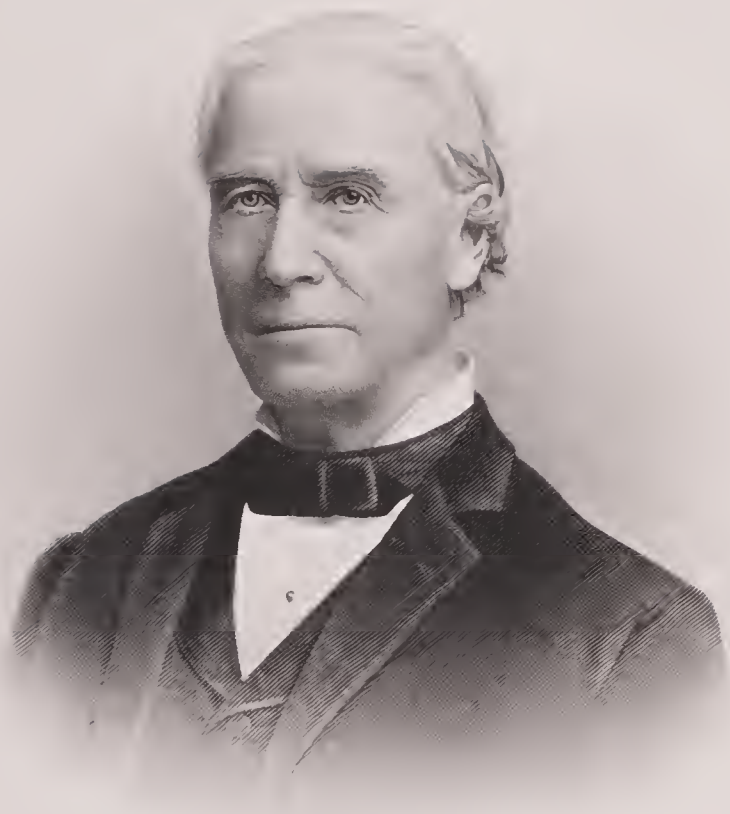
But tears and flowers and funereal ceremonies are the expressions of the first sense of loss. The memory of the good and great survives in the heart and takes enduring form in the tribute paid by surviving and after generations. On the 9th day of August, 1894, in the same city of Newark, was unveiled the statue erected to the memory of Frederick T. Frelinghuysen by a union of private citizens and the municipal government of the city of his home. The statue is a bronze, was the work of the Hartford sculptor, Karl Gerhardt, and was the gift of the citizens of Newark. It is colossal in size, standing nine feet high, and represents the subject addressing an audience,—an attitude so familiar to the people of the city. The pedestal is of granite, twelve feet high, on a broad extending base of the French style, and was the gift of the city through the common council and the board of works, and is a rare specimen of the architectural skill of A. Wallace Brown, of Newark.

The imposing ceremonies were participated in by the governor of New Jersey, Hon. George T. Werts, and his staff; the orator of the day, ex-Chancellor Runyon, ambassador of the United States to the court of Berlin; the mayor of the city, Julius A. Lebkuescher; the special committee of the board of trade; the bar of Essex county; the common council of the city of Newark; the board of works and the board of trade of the city of Newark and the First Essex Troop, National Guard, who led the procession to the ground. The presentation address was made by Ambassador Runyon and included a sketch of the life and services of him to whom the statue was erected. Thus fittingly and enduringly does the distinguished citizen, the brilliant lawyer and the eminent Christian statesman live before the eye of the rising generations as well as in the hearts and memory of a grateful people.









Very truly Yours  
J. H. Price



# HIRAM PRICE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

By B. F. GUE.\*



HIRAM PRICE was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, January 10, 1814. His father removed to and lived on a farm lying on the banks of the Juniata river, in Mifflin county, about a mile below the little village of Waynesburg. When Hiram was six years old he was sent to a small private school which was kept in the neighborhood as both a day and evening school. This was long before the public-school system was established, and what schools there were in the country settlements were private enterprises, sustained by private subscriptions and kept by the old-fashion traveling country-school teachers, who were then mostly men. School books, as well as all other kinds of books, magazines and even newspapers, were not by any means plentiful in the farm homes of those days, and were among the luxuries that few were able to secure. Mr. Price, in recalling the memory of his earliest school days, says: "I still have a vivid recollection of, when a little boy of seven, coming home from the night school alone, the river on my right and the heavily wooded hills on my left, dark and gloomy, making a lonesome walk for a small boy. On Saturday afternoons, small as I was, I well remember paddling a canoe along the river near the shore to a favorite fishing place in the shade of some great trees, where I anchored my boat with a rope attached to a large stone, and spent many an hour alone, angling for sunfish." The school days lasted but from two to three months of the year, and boys were brought up to make themselves useful at farm work as soon as they were large enough to help at any kind of labor. Young Hiram had a taste for reading from the time he was eight years old, and on one of his horseback rides to the distant mill, with a bag of wheat thrown over the back of the animal, he made the acquaintance of an old man who was willing to lend him some books to read. He thus secured Plutarch's Lives, Rollin's Ancient History and other books, which he read evenings, after the day's work was done, by the light of a tallow candle. In this way the farmer's boy got his first knowledge of the great world outside, and began to acquire that thirst for knowledge which a few years later took him from the farm. When he was sixteen years old he secured a position in a country store, at a salary of twenty-five dollars a year and board. At the end of eighteen months he had mastered the art of bookkeeping by single entry, and his salary was raised to two hundred dollars a year. Brought up to habits of industry and the most rigid economy, the young man had the courage to marry the girl of his choice, Miss Susan Betts, when he was twenty and getting a salary of but three hundred dollars a year. But he knew he could live somehow, and keep his expenses within his earnings, which he did, never running into debt. Years afterward, when he had won fame and fortune in the west, he wrote to young men: "The world owes no man a living until he has earned it. Industry and economy are worth more in the battle of life than genius or wealth or influential friends or relations. The industry and economy become a part of the individual, and cannot be taken from

\* This sketch of the life of Hon. Hiram Price was written by Hon B. F. Gue, of Des Moines, Iowa, for publication in a work entitled Annals of Iowa. The writer was for many years a resident of Scott county, Iowa, which was the home of Mr. Price for the major portion of his active life, and the article is therefore largely compiled from data personally known to the author.

him without his consent. The others may all leave him, whether he consents or not." The following extract from a private letter reveals the financial condition of the young man when he ventured to take the most important step in his life:

I was twenty years old when we were married, and our combined capital was one hundred and forty-five dollars; so the contract for life between us had no mercenary tinge to mar its harmony or engender strife. For over fifty years we were one in purpose, one in effort, one in hope. We took counsel of each other on all subjects relating to our affairs,—our efforts and aims were one. Our comforts and our cares were joint stock and common property.

After several years of hard work and rigid economy they had accumulated a capital of two thousand dollars, which was invested in a piece of real estate; but the title proved defective, and the hard earnings were lost. Undismayed by this misfortune, they decided to move to the far west and begin again in a new country. In 1844 they moved to the territory of Iowa and settled in the little village of Davenport, which then had about eight hundred inhabitants. When Mr. Price determined to open a little store in the frontier village where he expected to make his future home he had only about a hundred dollars in money. A historian of early days in Davenport writes concerning him at this time as follows: "His small pecuniary resources were supplemented by a valuable capital of another kind. What he lacked in money was made up in other possessions of greater value—he had youth, energy, perseverance, business tact, stern integrity, was rigidly temperate, and conscientious in all his transactions." Could a young man have a better equipment for success in life, starting at the foot of the ladder? Such a man was sure to succeed, and in a few years he had established an excellent business reputation and won the confidence and esteem of the community in which he lived. In 1847 he was elected first school-fund commissioner of the county under the state organization, which had been established the year before. The next year he was elected recorder and treasurer for Scott county, and was continued in this responsible dual position for eight years, serving with the utmost fidelity until he declined a reelection.

Mr. Price has always been a radical and determined opponent of the use and sale of intoxicating liquors, freely giving of his time and money to promote temperance movements and organizations. As early as 1847 he was instrumental in establishing a division of the Sons of Temperance in Davenport. In February of the next year he was the most influential leader in organizing a grand division of the Sons of Temperance for the state. He was for many years at the head of that organization, and for a long period was annually chosen to represent it in the national division of North America. In 1854 a movement was made by the temperance workers of Iowa for the establishment of a "Maine Law League," the object of which was to arouse and influence the people of the state to demand the prohibition by law of the sale of intoxicating liquors. Neal Dow, the distinguished temperance apostle of Maine, had, in 1851, secured the enactment of such a law in his state, and it had wrought a great reform from the evils of intemperance, and the temperance people of many of the northern states had organized for the purpose of securing similar legislation. When the State Alliance was organized in Iowa Hiram Price was by common consent made its first president, for he had by this time become recognized by the temperance workers of Iowa as an untiring, uncompromising and fearless leader in the cause. It was determined to urge the enactment of a prohibitory law at the approaching session of the legislature and to bring all possible influence to bear to secure a law that would be effective. Hiram Price, David S. True and John L. Davies, of Davenport, were the three men selected to draft a bill to be presented to the legislature. They met at Mr. Price's office and there devised and put in legal form the bill which was afterward enacted as the Iowa prohibitory liquor law. Dr. Amos Witter, a Democratic representative from Scott county, was selected to take charge of the bill, and he promptly introduced it in the house, on the 13th of December, 1854. It met with the most determined opposition at every stage of progress, but finally passed both houses and received the approval of Governor Grimes. The only important change in the bill as drafted by Messrs. True, Price and Davies was that which submitted the act to a vote of the electors of the state, at the April election, for approval or rejection. The friends of prohibition opened an active campaign and secured the adoption of the prohibitory law by a majority of nearly three thousand.

A determined, organized effort was at once made by the liquor interest in many of the larger towns of the state to defeat the enforcement of the new law, and the grand division of the Sons of Temperance decided to establish a paper in the interest of enforcement. The new paper was established at Davenport and was called the Temperance Organ. Hiram Price was the leading spirit in the enterprise, and upon him devolved its editorial management. That it was aggressive, courageous and able under his direction it is hardly necessary to state. In writing of this enterprise thirty years later Mr. Price says:



The music made by that "organ" may not have been very artistic, but no one could fail to understand the character of the tunes. It was published a year and a half, when my money gave out, and the music, so far as that organ was concerned, ceased. In return for the time and money I expended, I obtained a large addition to my stock of experience. Among the large chunks of knowledge that I acquired in this newspaper enterprise was the fact that it is not always the men who make the loudest professions and the longest prayers who are the best Christians. Thousands of people are willing to talk and even pray for temperance, but comparatively few are willing to pay for it.

The prohibitory law was to go into effect on the 4th of July after its enactment, and the saloon men had made threats of violence against any one who attempted to enforce it in Davenport. Mr. Price and other leaders of the temperance societies had often received letters threatening their property and lives if they undertook to close the saloons. Under the lead of Hiram Price preparations were quietly made to reinforce the officers executing the law, in a way that would be most effective with law-breakers. Application was made to the military authorities for arms, which resulted in securing a brass six-pounder and fifty-four muskets with bayonets and cartridges. It soon became known that arms had been secured, and the saloon-keepers and their friends threatened to capture them. They secretly organized a crowd in Davenport, which was strongly reinforced by their friends in Rock Island. At the hour agreed upon they came together, on the 4th of July, with the avowed purpose of capturing the arms, and directed their line of march toward the place where the cannon was kept. Many of the temperance guard were absent attending celebrations, but Hiram Price happened to be down town and heard the threats of the gathering mob. Hastily securing some powder and bullets, he hurried to where the cannon was kept, warning out such of his friends as he met on the streets. Thirteen determined men were soon at the rendezvous, and had barely time to get their field-piece loaded and in position before the mob was seen advancing upon them, two hundred strong. It was a moment of intense excitement. The cannon was in a position to sweep the street upon which the mob was advancing, and was supported by thirteen cool, determined men, with loaded muskets and fixed bayonets. Mr. Price was in command, and as the mob advanced he gave orders to his little band to make no movement until he discharged his revolver,—then to fire the cannon and immediately reload and fire again, then use the bayonets. Price then slowly walked out toward the advancing crowd, presented his revolver and ordered the howling mob to halt! To his surprise they stopped. Pointing to his little command, he addressed the crowd in the following words: "That cannon is loaded with bullets to kill. When I fire this pistol that cannon will be fired." Marking a line across the street, he continued: "If you cross this line I shall fire this pistol. You have fair warning,—if you disregard it you must take the consequences." The mob hesitated, the front rank began to fall back, and in a few minutes they retired to a safe distance. While there was no man living more cordially hated by them than Hiram Price, they knew that he always kept his promises! That ended the attempt to disarm the prohibitionists, but by no means terminated the contest between the opposing forces.

To the day that Mr. Price removed from the state he never ceased to use his influence and contribute of his means to sustain the law he was so largely instrumental in placing upon the statute books of Iowa. He has never wavered in his lifelong warfare on saloons, has never hesitated to strike hard and heavy blows at crimes against law and society, and has never withheld the expression of his earnest convictions from considerations of policy or fear of consequences, personally or politically. When others became lukewarm or discouraged, he remained firm; when party policy dictated compromise with the saloon interest he raised his voice and wielded his pen with the old-time vigor of youth in protest. When the history of prohibition is written for Iowa no name will rank higher among the leaders and unflinching advocates of the cause than that of Hiram Price.

In 1853 a railroad was projected from Chicago westward to some point on the Mississippi river. Work had been begun on the eastern end of it, and the citizens of Davenport held a conference for the purpose of inducing the company to locate its line through Rock Island, Davenport, across Iowa westward to Council Bluffs. Mr. Price was chosen to visit the chief towns along the proposed route and get them interested in the project. This was the initial movement which resulted later in building the great Rock Island Railroad through Iowa and on westward toward the Pacific ocean.

In 1869 a railroad was projected from Davenport northward, and Mr. Price was chosen president of the company. He put ten thousand dollars of his own money and all of his unsurpassed energy into the enterprise, and built the road to Maquoketa and equipped it. He also built a portion of the branch running northward via Wheatland. It is a notable fact that there were no jobs for friends or favorites in the construction and equipment of these roads. Everything was done on principles of the strictest integrity and in the interest of the stockholders who had furnished the money to build the roads. No combination of influential parties was able to swerve the president



from the faithful execution of the trust placed in his charge. While the road was beneficial to Davenport and the country through which it passed, it was not a profitable investment to the men who furnished the money to build it, and Mr. Price never realized a dollar from the enterprise.

Mr. Price had been a Democrat all the early years of his life, and after he settled in Iowa was an active member of that party. He was the Democratic candidate for the first offices he held in this state, but the position his party had gradually been taking for several years in defense of the encroachments of slavery in the new territories had alienated him from it. He was not in harmony with a majority of its members on the license of the sale of intoxicating liquors, and with thousands of other Democrats in the northern states he was ready and anxious to ally himself with a party whose principles accorded more nearly with his own convictions of right and wrong. On the 22d of February, 1856, there assembled at Iowa City a notable body of representative men of the state, in response to a call for the organization of a Republican party. Former members of the Whig, Democratic and Anti-slavery parties came together to make common cause against the aggressions of the slave power. Old party ties were severed, and a union of all opposed to the extension of slavery was the object of the convention.

The advocates of the prohibitory liquor law, under the lead of Hiram Price, made a vigorous effort to secure in the platform to be adopted a recognition of their cause. The German voters, who were numerous in several of the river countries, were almost a unit in opposition to slavery, and were ready to leave the Democratic party and unite with a new organization making common cause against the extension of slavery into the new territories, but they were also opposed to the prohibitory liquor law. It was contended by those who were opposed to an endorsement of prohibition, that the paramount issue was opposition to the extension of slavery, and that this convention was called for the purpose of organizing all who held views in common on that subject into a political body to coöperate with the then rising Republican party in the northern states in resisting the demands of the slave power; that no other issue of a local character ought to be permitted to divide the anti-slavery people or alienate a portion of them from the new party; that with union and harmony the new party could control the state and secure anti-slavery representatives in congress, but by introducing other issues fatal divisions would ensue, leading to defeat. The advocates of prohibition met these objections and arguments with powerful appeals to the delegates *to do right*, and trust to the fidelity of the voters to give them victory.

Hiram Price was the chairman of the Scott county delegation, the largest in the convention, and was the leader of the prohibitionists. Under his inspiration an able and vigorous contest was made for the incorporation of prohibition into the platform of the new party. But a majority of the delegates were of the opinion that the only issue should be made on slavery extension, where all could agree and work in harmony. The prohibitionists acquiesced in the decision of the majority, and a new party was organized which was destined to rule the state and nation for a third of a century.

During his residence in Iowa Mr. Price had been successful in his business enterprises and in the official positions he had held, and had acquired the reputation of an able financier. When the act of the legislature of 1858, providing for a system of state banks, took effect, he represented one of the branches, and after the first year was chosen president of the State Bank, which office he held until that system was superseded by the national banks, in 1865. No better state bank system has ever been devised than this Iowa law brought into existence. Many of the features of the national banking system were suggested by the Iowa law, and had here been found, by the experience of seven years of successful trial, to be well adapted to the exigencies of the business. The men who had organized the Iowa banks and supervised their business during the period of their successful career, retired with the reputation of able and trustworthy financiers.

When the great rebellion suddenly came upon the country the northern states were entirely unprepared for war. They were generally destitute of efficient military laws to meet such an emergency, and no money was available to provide for the extraordinary expenses that must be incurred in furnishing troops in response to the calls of the national government. While Governor Kirkwood was waiting for funds from the sale of state bonds, authorized by an extra session of the legislature, two Iowa regiments had hastened into the service. The young men composing these regiments had left their homes on short notice and generally with very little money to supply their wants. The state undertook to pay the soldiers until they were mustered into the United States service, but no money had yet been realized from the bonds. Hiram Price had learned of the destitution of the boys, and wrote to Governor Kirkwood: "Governor, cannot something be done *immediately* to furnish these men some money? If taken sick many of them have not money enough to buy an orange." To this the Governor replied: "You are right, Mr. Price, but what can we do?"



We have no money." In reply Mr. Price wrote: "I can raise a few thousand dollars, and I feel that something ought to be done at once, if it is ever so little, to show these men that they are not forgotten." This correspondence brought about a conference which resulted in the speedy raising of thirty-three thousand dollars. Of this sum Hiram Price raised twenty-two thousand dollars, and Ezekiel Clark, of Iowa City, raised eleven thousand, becoming personally responsible for these amounts.

Governor Kirkwood gratefully accepted the money tendered by these two patriotic citizens, and promptly commissioned them to proceed to Missouri, where the regiments were engaged in active service, and make the first payment to the soldiers. It was a hazardous mission that Price and Clark undertook, as the portions of the state where the Iowa regiments were stationed were infested with Confederate recruits hastening to join General Sterling Price's rebel army. The Second Iowa Regiment was found guarding bridges on the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, and eleven thousand dollars was paid to them. Soon afterward Mr. Clark, who was acting quartermaster-general, was called away on urgent business, and Mr. Price proceeded alone to find the First Iowa Regiment, which was in central Missouri, in General Lyon's command. It was just before the battle of Wilson's Creek. The whole state was at this time in a condition of anarchy. Many of its public officials and leading citizens were actively engaged in enlisting soldiers for the Confederate service, obstructing railroads and organizing guerilla bands to destroy government property and cut off recruits and supplies for the Union armies. Hiram Price now began his journey alone to find the regiment. When he approached Jefferson City a section of the railroad was found to be in the hands of the rebels, and a portion of his journey was made on foot through the enemy's country, and the balance of it on the old stern-wheeler, Sam Gaty, by which he succeeded in reaching Booneville in safety, and there found the First Iowa Infantry, to which he paid eleven thousand dollars a few days before the battle of Wilson's Creek. Returning to Keokuk he paid the Third Infantry eleven thousand dollars before it left for the south. When the first arms were sent to Burlington by the general government, to aid the governor of Iowa in expelling from Missouri the rebel bands who were plundering the people of the border counties, the express company held them for nine hundred dollars' charges, which the governor had no money to pay. When the first bales of blankets for Iowa soldiers were sent to Davenport they were held for five hundred dollars' charges for transportation. In these and other financial emergencies Hiram Price came promptly forward and raised the money upon his own personal credit, loyally standing by Governor Kirkwood in these perilous and critical times. He never hesitated from prudential considerations, as so many thousands of moneyed men did, but freely risked his fortune as well as his life whenever emergencies required it. Few citizens of the present generation in Iowa will ever know how loyally such men as Hiram Price, Ezekiel Clark, J. K. Graves, W. T. Smith, W. F. Coolbaugh and a few other able financiers came to the aid of our state government in those trying times. In those days there were young men in plenty who were willing to risk their lives for their country, but capitalists who were as ready to risk their fortunes in behalf of the same good cause were not numerous.

During the darkest days of the Rebellion, when the first draft had been ordered to reinforce the Union armies, Henry Clay Dean held a meeting in Davenport. The hall was crowded with disloyal people who were known as "Copperheads." Dean's speech was undoubtedly the vilest denunciation of Lincoln's administration ever uttered in Iowa. A little group of Republicans occupied a seat in an obscure corner of the room, and among the number was Hiram Price. I remember one part of Dean's terrific assault upon the government was substantially in these words:

There is a singular resemblance between Claudius Nero and Abraham Lincoln. Nero put Christians to death, under false pretenses, to gratify the worshipers of the Pantheon. Lincoln corrupted one part of the church to engage in warfare with the other part, and burned twelve hundred houses of worship, mutilated graveyards, dragged ministers from their knees in the very act of worship, tied them up by their thumbs, had their daughters stripped naked by negro soldiers, under command of white officers.

When Dean had finished his venomous speech Hiram Price sprang up on a bench, every fiber of his loyal heart quivering with indignation, as his clear voice rang out: "Mr. President, may I be permitted to reply to Mr. Dean?" "No," shouted Dean, "we want none of your black abolition speeches here,—the meeting is adjourned; boys, let's go," and he started for the door, followed by his friends. Hiram Price shook his hand at the retreating crowd, and exclaimed in a voice that rang out like a bugle blast: "Henry Clay Dean, I will give you ten dollars if you and your gang will hear me ten minutes in reply to your infamous harrangue." But nothing could stop the stampede. They knew Hiram Price too well to permit him to pour hot shot on their heads. Dean, without replying, led the wild flight into the street, out of reach of the impending execration.



All through the anxious years of the war Mr. Price was one of the pillars of strength to our state government in the herculean work it had to do. His time, money, services and counsel were always freely given, with a promptness which inspired confidence and strengthened the timid and wavering. It was during this period that he was first called upon to represent the second district in congress. In the dark days of 1862 he was nominated by the Republicans, and at the close of a vigorous and aggressive campaign was elected by a majority of over three thousand five hundred. As a member of congress Mr. Price was an earnest supporter of the most energetic war measures, as well as of all legislation required to strengthen the credit of the national government. In 1864 he made his *début* as an orator, delivering an able speech in support of the bill to establish the freedmen's bureau.

At the Republican state convention held in Des Moines in June, 1865, Edward Russell, a delegate from Scott county and editor of the Davenport Gazette, offered an amendment to the platform reported by the committee on resolutions, and this amendment aroused a warm discussion, its context being as follows: "Therefore, we are in favor of amending the constitution of our state by striking out the word *white* from the article on suffrage." The purpose of the amendment was to remove the last remnant of race discrimination from the laws of Iowa. Many of the timid delegates were alarmed and made strong efforts to induce Mr. Russell to withdraw his resolution. But he refused, and made a vigorous defense of his measure. So radical an anti-slavery man as J. B. Grinnell feared that its adoption, which meant negro suffrage, would defeat the Republican ticket. After several delegates had opposed the amendment as impolitic, Hiram Price took the floor and made one of the great speeches of his life. "The Republican party," said he, "is strong enough to dare to do *right*, and cannot afford now or at any other time to shirk a duty. The colored men, north and south, were loyal and true to the government in the days of its great peril. There was not a rebel or traitor to be found among them. They ask the privilege of citizenship, now that slavery has been forever banished from our country. Why should the great freedom-loving state of Iowa longer deny them this right? Not one reason can be given that has not been used to bolster up slavery for the past hundred years. The war just closed has swept that relic of barbarism from our land,—let the Republican party have the courage to do justice. I have no fear of the result in a contest of this kind. We shall carry the election and have the satisfaction of wiping out the last vestige of the black code that has long been a disgrace to our state."

After the lapse of nearly thirty years it is impossible to give anything like a graphic report of this speech, for it was entirely impromptu and was never reported or published. But those who heard it will never forget the fervid eloquence, the sledge-hammer logic or the powerful and irresistible appeal poured forth in a torrent of righteous indignation that has seldom been surpassed. The timid delegates were shamed into silence by the eloquence of the fearless leader, and right prevailed over policy. The Russell amendment was adopted and carried into effect by the required legislation, thus wiping off from the statute books of Iowa the last remnant of race discrimination.

Mr. Price was one of the founders of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Davenport and has always remained one of its most influential supporters. He remained in congress for three terms, giving loyal support to the measures of reconstruction as enacted by the Republican majority following the suppression of the great rebellion. At the close of his third term he declined a reelection. In 1876 he was again sent to congress from his old district, remaining there two terms. On November 7, 1877, Mr. Price made a speech in the house strongly advocating the resumption of specie payment. On the 15th of the next January he made an able speech in favor of remonetizing silver and making it a legal tender in payment of debts. In the course of his argument he said:

No nation attempts to demonetize silver and adopt the gold standard while she is a debtor nation; but when a nation becomes a creditor nation her interest may be to have gold alone as the standard, and the dearer they can make the gold the better for them. The effect is to make money dear and labor cheap, and no amount of special pleading or sophistry can avoid this stubborn fact. We who advocate the restoration of silver as it was prior to 1873 are not repudiators. We seek to avoid no contracts or obligations; we want no silver dollar that is not as good as any gold dollar. The acts of 1873-4 took from our people what for long years and under all circumstances had been a sound, reliable and current coin of the nation, and now in the name of the oppressed and suffering industries of the country we demand the restoration of what was wrongfully taken from us. We are not speaking of legislation for bullion, either gold or silver. We are legislating for gold and silver coined and made the legal tender money of the nation, as contemplated by the constitution of the United States. We are laboring to get back the dollar that has been tried in every condition and under every variety of circumstances in this country and never found wanting.

A noteworthy incident in connection with Mr. Price's congressional career is that touching the prominent part which he took in the consideration and framing of the national banking laws. Relative to this important matter and his connection therewith he has written as follows: "When the national



banking law was under consideration in congress there was a strong desire on the part of all to give the country a bank currency that would be safe and uniform in all the states and all sections. In the discussion of this feature of the law some of the ablest men then in congress thought the desired results could be accomplished by fixing six per cent. as the uniform rate of interest, beyond which no national bank should be allowed to charge. As president of the State Bank of Iowa I had had some experience in banking and with bank currency, and I knew that the object sought could not be accomplished in that way, because in most of the western states money was *then* worth ten per cent., and it was very evident that an arbitrary rate of six per cent. would prevent the organization of national banks in those states. In view of this fact I offered an amendment, which is now Section 5196 of the Revised Statutes, and which reads as follows: 'Every national banking association formed or existing under this title shall take and receive at par for any debt or liability to it any and all notes or bills issued by any lawfully organized national banking association.' And that feature of the national banking law is the reason that all national bank notes are at par upon every foot of American soil to-day. Incompetent or dishonest bank officers may wreck a national bank, but the bill-holder is absolutely safe, and this was never the case in this country under any other system of banking. A national bank bill has the national government as its endorser and guarantor."

In 1881, at the close of his last term in congress, Mr. Price was appointed by the president as commissioner of Indian affairs. He entered upon the work of his new position with his usual zeal and energy, and for four years labored to better the condition of the Indians and reform some of the government methods of dealing with them. He was now nearly seventy years of age, and had since boyhood led an active life, toiling early and late, in both private and public affairs. Whatever business claimed his attention was prosecuted with untiring vigor and usually led to success. For more than thirty years he had been a leader in reform, financial and political affairs in the state; from youthful poverty he had won a competence; in the temperance movement he was conceded the highest rank; in financial enterprises he had achieved great success; in official life his record was above suspicion, and his influence was second to none in the state.

As a public speaker Mr. Price never resorted to the artifices of the professional orator. He did not care to amuse his audience with a stock of anecdotes, sandwiched in at regular intervals to raise a laugh or win applause. He never "posed" for effect, nor did he ever seek occasion to make speeches for the purpose of advertising himself. When he spoke in public it was certain that he had something to say, and he went at it in the most direct and straightforward manner. There was no policy, no honeyed phrases to please the ear and conceal an opinion. He used the plainest English, looking his audience squarely in the eyes; he held their closest attention and aroused the highest degree of enthusiasm by his fearless and earnest utterances. No one could mistake his position. It was always taken and maintained with a positiveness that left no room for doubt. He never waited to catch the drift of the popular breeze, but always led off, prompted only by his convictions of right and wrong. He was never a compromiser, but on the contrary was one of the most vigorous fighters of the times. When overborne by the majority he acquiesced gracefully, not because he was convinced that the decision was right, but because he was loyal to the fundamental principle of our republican government,—that the majority should rule. He made bitter enemies in his life-long war against evil-doers, but intense as was their hatred they secretly entertained a profound respect for a foe so valiant and sincere. Friends who recognized his superb executive ability often urged Mr. Price to become a candidate for governor, but he did not care to enter into a contest for that exalted position, and is content to live a quiet life as old age approaches. A paper published at his old home says of Mr. Price's religious associations:

A life-long Methodist, he has been an active supporter and liberal contributor to the church of his choice. In early days, when the members were few in number and all were pretty close to the foot of fortune's financial ladder, Mr. Price agreed to do all the sexton's work for one year, on condition that no collection should be taken for incidental expenses. He swept out the frontier mud and cleaned the smoky oil lamps with the same vigor and thoroughness that have since characterized his work as banker, railroad president, congressman, Indian commissioner and philanthropist.

At the fiftieth anniversary of the church; in 1889, he said: "During my fifty-seven years as a member of this church I have been sexton, steward, trustee, class-leader, Sunday-school superintendent, delegate to two general conferences, and am just as proud of having been sexton as of the other positions." One of his last kindly remembrances of his old Davenport home was a gift to the public library of that city. He set aside an amount of money, the interest of which is annually used to furnish a free reading room with thirty of the best magazines, weekly and daily papers. He also furnished and fitted up a commodious room where the people have free access to the best current literature of the times.

In the year 1885 Mr. Price took up his permanent residence in the nation's beautiful capital city, where, as a notable instance of *otium cum dignitate*, with mental vigor unimpaired, maintaining a lively interest in the questions and affairs of the day, he is passing the golden autumn of a life consecrated to exalted ideals, to humanity and to the One in whose hands rest the destinies of us all. Living quietly in his Washington home, his work is not yet ended, nor will it be until is lifted the curtain to reveal the glories of the life eternal, for the radiating lines of his influence are ever widening, and so will do when remembrance of his personality shall have faded from the minds of living men. Iowa people remember and honor him for his noble life work in behalf of the great state, and his name will be for all time associated with the stirring events of the brightest pages of its history.







*Ed Walsh*



## EDWARD WALSH,

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.



THE measure of a man's success is not determined by the heights which he chances to occupy, but by the depths from which he has climbed. Not on the plane of affluence did Edward Walsh start out on life's journey, but in the valley of limited circumstances; and yet it was his to become a power in the industrial life of the city of St. Louis, his to attain a noteworthy success through well directed endeavor and to leave a record of high accomplishment and utmost honor and usefulness,—a record that will remain as a perpetual monument to one of St. Louis' most worthy and public-spirited citizens.

Edward Walsh was born in county Tipperary, Ireland, on the 27th of December, 1798. Being a member of a family of eleven children, he learned in his boyhood the valuable lessons of industry and thrift which stood him so well in hand throughout his long and useful life. His was ever a keen appreciation of the dignity of honest toil, and as soon as he was old enough he began work, his school days having ended when he was twelve years of age, after which time he was for four years employed in a store kept by a cousin. For the succeeding four years he was associated with his brother in the conduct of a milling enterprise, but shortly before completing his twentieth year he left the Emerald Isle and emigrated to America, his intention being to join forces with a cousin who had been for some time located at Louisville, Kentucky. On reaching his destination Mr. Walsh failed to find the opening which he sought in a business way, and he accordingly continued his way westward to St. Louis, where he thoroughly canvassed the situation, took cognizance of the opportunities offered, and finally built a mill in Sainte Genevieve county, where he conducted a profitable business until 1824, when he disposed of his interests and established another milling enterprise, in Madison county.

It was but shortly after this that he located permanently in St. Louis,—a city with whose growth and material industries he was destined to be so conspicuously identified for many years to come. He here associated himself with his brother in the founding of the general-merchandise house of J. & E. Walsh. He still retained, however, a desire to develop a satisfactory industry in the line of milling, and in 1831 he effected the purchase of a mill located on the corner of Florida street and the Levee, the same having been erected as early as 1827. Under his well directed management this mill for a long time held the record of producing more flour than any other in St. Louis. He also secured two other mills, and his operations assumed a gigantic scale. His capacity for affairs of great breadth was unmistakable, and while he had a due conservatism, yet his faith in his own powers to will and to do was such that he never faltered in purpose, and directed his efforts deliberately and wisely toward the accomplishment of desired ends. His operations began to ramify in divers important directions, and his mentality and business acumen were adequate to meet all demands placed upon him as a controlling or directing spirit.

He became prominently concerned in steamboating on the Mississippi river, investing in this line about half a million dollars which he had accumulated from his other fields of endeavor, and eventually becoming interested in more than twenty-one vessels plying on the western waters. The firm of which he was a member had a practical monopoly of the Galena lead business, out of which was realized an immense sum of money.

Mr. Walsh was progressive and thoroughly public-spirited in a practical way. He was one of the first to take an active part in the agitation in favor of railroad facilities for St. Louis, having been a member of the original directorate of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company and one of the original stockholders in the Ohio & Mississippi and the North Missouri Railroad Companies. The name of Walsh is so indissolubly associated with the street-railroad system of St. Louis that it is scarcely necessary to mention the fact that Edward Walsh was one of the first to insist upon the laying of street-railroad tracks in the city and one of the first to become concerned in the organization of companies to operate them. He also found time from his apparently exhausting duties to aid the founding of the old State Bank of Missouri and also the Merchants' National Bank, besides which he was a stockholder and director in the Missouri Insurance and Union Insurance Companies.

Mr. Walsh seemed never to realize in a personal way the significance of the word fatigue, and he worked day and night with never varying energy and concentration, displaying an amount of practical judgment and activity which was at once a subject of surprise and admiration. To say that he was a self-made man is to express a great truth in a very commonplace manner. His parents were unable to assist him beyond the point of giving him a primary education, and he came to America with practically neither friends nor fortifying influences. He was never discouraged by temporary failures, and he persisted in his efforts until he acquired not only an enormous fortune, but also a reputation of which any man might well be proud. He found ample time to devote to legitimate works of charity, and he derived special pleasure and satisfaction from assisting young emigrants in whom he detected the desire to work and prosper by fair means, his belief being that the world owes no man a living until he has earned it. Several of these young men assisted by him have risen to positions of prominence and importance in the city and state, and through them his name has been granted still further and most grateful honor.

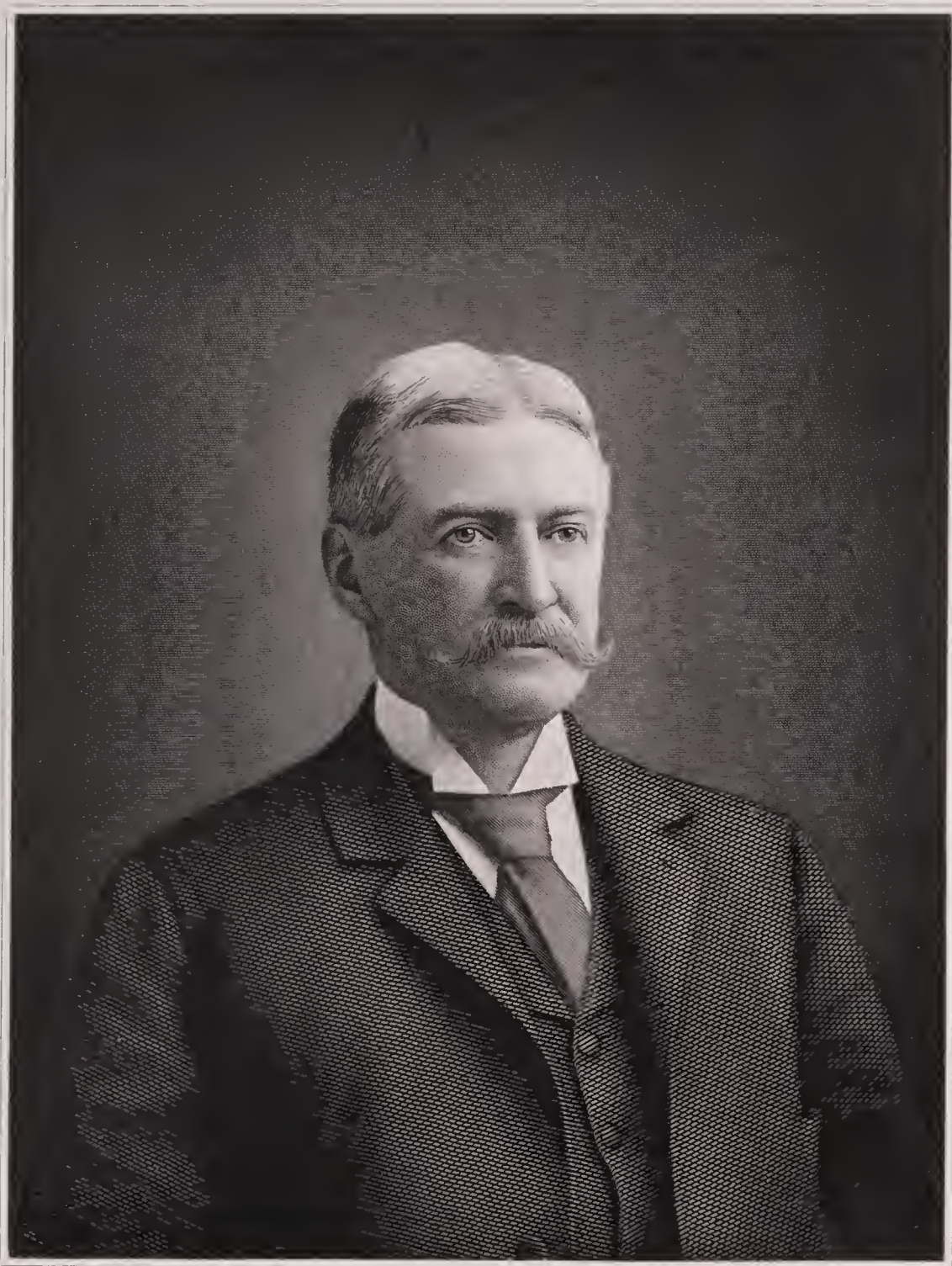
Personally he declined political advancement or official preferment of every kind, although he was frequently importuned to accept nominations. He, however, was ready to lend his influence and tangible aid to supporting the cause which he favored, a notable instance being in his assisting and supporting Thomas H. Benton, one of his most intimate friends, in whose interest he worked unselfishly and enthusiastically.

Edward Walsh died on the 23d of March, 1866, mourned by a large circle of friends and also by thousands of people who, while not personally acquainted with him, were aware and appreciative of his brilliant work in the public behalf and his unimpeachable integrity in all the affairs and relations of life. Mr. Walsh was twice married, his union with Miss Maria Tucker having been solemnized in 1822, while in 1840 he wedded Miss Isabelle de Mun, daughter of Julius de Mun. Mrs. Walsh survived her honored husband for more than a decade, her death occurring on the 26th of May, 1877.

Of the six children who survive the father we offer brief record as follows: Ellen became the wife of Solon Humphries, of New York, at one time president of the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railway Company; to Julius S. individual reference is made in the succeeding sketch; Marie C. became the wife of B. M. Chambers, of St. Louis county; and J. A. Walsh, Edward Walsh, Jr., and Daniel E. Walsh,—all of whom contributed largely during their active business careers to the progress of the city and to its substantial development along normal lines, thus carrying forward the work so ably instituted by their father, whose name and labors will ever be an integral part of the history of the fair Missouri metropolis which lies along the shores of the "Father of Waters."







*Julius F. Walck*



# JULIUS S. WALSH,

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

ONE of the successful financiers of the west is Julius S. Walsh, of St. Louis. Although still in the prime of vigorous manhood, he has been a commanding figure in the financial circles of the city for more than thirty years. His student days were passed in preparation for the profession of the law, but after being admitted to the bar he became interested with his father, the late Edward Walsh, whose memoir immediately precedes this sketch, in various large enterprises, and after the latter's death, in 1866, our subject, then but twenty-four years of age, acted as administrator of the estate, and by his able management thereof indicated the ability which in later years has made him one of the leading financiers of the west.

Born December 1, 1842, in the city of St. Louis, which could not at that time claim a population of twenty thousand people, his career has paralleled that of his native place. His childhood was blessed by the refining and broadening influences of a cultured home, his youth by exceptional advantages for mental improvement, his manhood by eminence in his chosen occupation. Rapid as has been the growth of St. Louis, Mr. Walsh in all his enterprises has kept pace therewith.

He was the eldest son of the late Edward Walsh and his wife, Isabelle, *née* de Mun. After receiving the usual preliminary educational discipline he entered the St. Louis University, where he continued his studies

until 1859, when he became a student in St. Joseph College, at Bardstown, Kentucky, graduating at that institution in June, 1861. Immediately thereafter he began reading law under the preceptorship of Hon. John M. Krum, of St. Louis, and after thus laying the foundation for a thorough course of technical study he entered the law department of Columbia College, where he graduated as a member of the class of 1864, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Laws and being simultaneously admitted to the bar of the state of New York. In 1865 St. Louis University conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts.

Returning to his native city in 1864, he entered the office of the firm of J. & E. Walsh, which at that time conducted various large mercantile, milling and manufacturing enterprises. Julius at once displayed business qualifications of a high order, and when, in 1866, the firm of J. & E. Walsh was dissolved by the death of Edward Walsh, and the administration of the estate was placed in his charge, he was enabled to conduct the large trust in a manner that surprised many and gratified all,—those capable of judging becoming convinced



BUILDING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY TRUST COMPANY, ST. LOUIS.



that the young man possessed the attributes that would make him a leader in any sphere he might select. That the judgment thus pronounced was warranted by the future even the following brief outline of his career will show.



GENERAL INTERIOR VIEW.

After the death of Edward Walsh Julius S. was his successor as a member of the boards of directors of various banking, railroad and street-railway corporations. In 1870 he was elected president of the Citizens' Railway Company and also of the Fairground & Suburban Railway Company. His administration of the affairs of these corporations was eminently successful, and he determined to extend his interests in local transportation companies. He thus became concerned with the Union Railway, and in 1873 was chosen president of the company, while still retaining his official positions with the railway companies previously mentioned. In 1874 he was elected president of the St. Louis Agricultural & Mechanical Association, and served as its chief executive for

four successive years, infusing into its management an energy and method strikingly characteristic of all his business operations. When he became president of the association its large grounds were occupied for only one week during the year. He at once proceeded to make the grounds attractive for all seasons and for every day in the year. He erected an art gallery and founded the zoölogical gardens, which at one time contained some of the rarest specimens of the animal kingdom of any collection in America and which became one of St. Louis' leading attractions. He erected the natural-history building and embellished the grounds with trees, flowers, drives and grade walks, giving to the people of St. Louis one of the pleasantest of recreation spots, nature and art vying with each other in their attractions.

Always one of the foremost advocates of the improvement of the Mississippi river, he became deeply interested in the plan of deepening the channel at the mouth of the river, through a system of jetties or artificial walls, and in 1875 he was elected president of the South Pass Jetty Company, thereafter acting consecutively in that capacity until the desired results were assured by obtaining a channel thirty-two feet in depth.

In 1877 Mr. Walsh again added to his interests in street-railway lines, and became president of the People's and the Tower Grove & Lafayette Railway Companies. In 1885 he built the Northern Central Railway and purchased a controlling interest in the Fairground & Cass Avenue Railway Company, being forthwith elected president of each of these corporations. With the acquisition of these lines Mr. Walsh acted as president of various railway companies which controlled about seventy-five miles of track.

In addition to the positions mentioned Mr. Walsh served from 1875 to 1890 as president of the St. Louis Bridge Company. In 1889 he was elected president of the Municipal Electric Light Company. In 1895 he was elected vice-president of the St. Louis Terminal Association, and in 1896 succeeded to the presidency. This association controls property worth thirty million dollars and controls the terminals of twenty-two railroads now entering St. Louis. Mr. Walsh has also served as a director in the Third National Bank, the Laclede National Bank, the Merchants' Laclede Bank, and also of the following named railroad corporations: The North Missouri, the St. Louis, Kansas City & Northern, the Wabash Western, the Ohio & Mississippi and the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern.

Undoubtedly one of Mr. Walsh's most brilliant accomplishments in the world of finance was



ENTRANCE TO SAFE-DEPOSIT VAULTS.



that implied in his organization of the Mississippi Valley Trust Company, in 1890. Of this corporation he has been president from its inception, and under his able management this has already become one of the leading financial institutions of the west. It is altogether probable that no similar enterprise has ever before so quickly won popular confidence. The company has a capital of two million six hundred thousand dollars, and its surplus and profits at the beginning of the year 1897 aggregated six hundred thousand dollars. The business is conducted in three departments,—trust, money-deposit and safe-deposit,—and in each its functions are far-reaching and its absolute reliability unquestionable. A magnificent building has recently been erected solely for the

use of the company, and the same is as complete and artistic as any similar structure in the United States. Excellent views of the exterior and interior of the building are employed in the illustration of this sketch, but it will not be malapropos to quote briefly from an artistic little brochure recently issued by the company:



THE ENTRESOL.

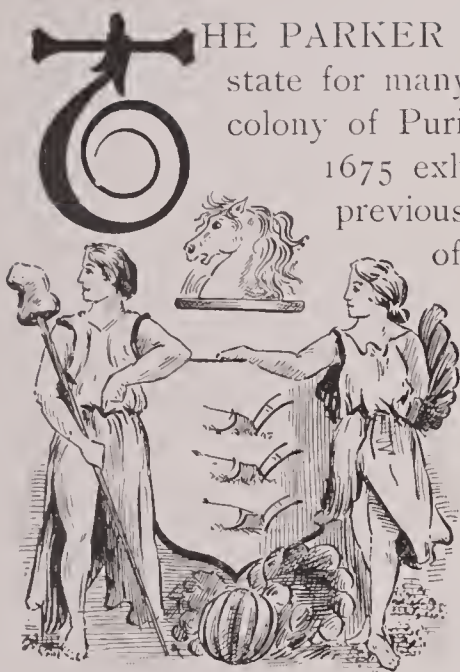
The building is situated on the northwest corner of Fourth and Pine streets, in the financial center of the city, on a lot fronting eighty-seven feet six inches on the west line of Fourth street, by a depth westwardly of one hundred twenty-seven feet six inches on the north line of Pine street, and is forty-nine feet high to the top of the cornice. So much for the actual size, which, however, cuts no figure, as the impression made on the observer is one of ample dimensions, the offices and vaults of the company being located in the south half of the building,—the corner. Technically, the building is composed of coupled and grouped Corinthian pilasters resting on a low stylobate or base, and supporting a simple but massive entablature crowned by the usual balustrade. The spacing of the pilasters and the arches forming semi-circular windows, while obviously dictated by the requirements of the plans, are effective and naturally placed, avoiding entirely the effect, so often produced in classic architecture, of being forced into place to meet the exigencies of exterior design. At the corner the architrave is rounded off and supported by two fluted Corinthian columns of charming proportion, and the wall-filling set back to admit of a recessed vestibule and the main entrance to the company's offices. There is also an entrance on Pine street, which, though subordinate to the other, is sufficiently emphasized and effective, the detail of the doors showing evidence of much scholarly thought and thorough knowledge of proportion. The effect of the exterior is one of simplicity and elegance.

The interior of the building is palatial in its architectural adornment, in the elegance of the fixtures and furnishings and the harmonious color scheme of its decorations. The counters and partitions separating the working departments from the public space are architectural in character, constructed of richly colored, selected Sienna marble with trimmings of gold-veined African marble. The caps to the marble pilasters forming the screen are of wrought bronze and support the marble architrave and, at convenient intervals, richly modeled bronze electric lamps. The spaces between the columns are filled by screens of rare workmanship in wrought-iron and bronze. The inside partitions are of mahogany throughout. At the end of the corridor formed by these is the entrance to the safe-deposit department, which is separated from the main room by a beautifully designed wrought-iron screen. The flat surface of the wall spaces is treated in a simple color of green, which, however, contrasts most effectively with the old-ivory of the architectural features, which are richly ornamented in relief work. The plainness of the walls is offset by the elegance of the heavily coffered ceiling, which is the dominating feature of the interior, the central panel forming an enormous skylight which floods the interior with light. There is a unity of design and purpose apparent throughout the entire structure and furnishing of the building, to which much of the imposing effect is due.

On the 11th of January, 1870, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Walsh to Miss Josie Dickson, daughter of the late Charles K. Dickson, of St. Louis.

# THE PARKER FAMILY,

NEW JERSEY.



THE PARKER FAMILY of New Jersey has figured prominently in the public life of that state for many generations. Elisha Parker, of Barnstable, Massachusetts, was one of the colony of Puritans who settled in Woodbridge, New Jersey, about 1666. The records of 1675 exhibit him as the proprietor of a large tract of land in Woodbridge, while his previous social position in Massachusetts is illustrated by his marriage to the sister of Governor Hinckley of that colony. While Elisha Parker was active in the early affairs of Woodbridge, his son, Elisha (second), was still more prominent. He was in 1694 high sheriff of Middlesex county; later he was deputy to the provincial assembly; in 1712 he became a member of Governor Hunter's council, and was appointed one of three custodians of the seal, thus inaugurating the New Jersey court of chancery.

John Parker, his son, next in the line, also became a member of the governor's council, in 1718, and continued in this honorable office until his death in 1732, serving under Governors Hunter, Burnet, Montgomerie, and Cosby. James Parker, son of the above, was no less distinguished. He served as captain in the French and Indian war of 1746; held the

office of surveyor-general and register of the board of proprietors of East Jersey, and, like his father and grandfather, became a member of the council, under Governor Franklin, in 1764,—a dignity which he held until the Revolution changed the form of government. During that war he removed from Perth Amboy, then the capital of East Jersey, to Hunterdon county, for the safety of his family, but at its close returned to his old home. In 1775 he was elected a member of the provincial congress. He was also a candidate for membership of the first congress of the United States, and in 1783 was elected mayor of Perth Amboy. He was both a leading member of the convention which organized the Protestant Episcopal church of the United States and largely instrumental in the compilation of its prayer book. While an extensive land-owner, by purchase from the "proprietors" in all the counties composing East Jersey, Mr. Parker was also a prosperous importing merchant of New York city and Amboy, having for his partner Beverly Robinson.

James Parker (second), who was born in Bethlehem, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, March 1, 1776, and who died in Perth Amboy, April 2, 1868, was the son of the foregoing, and ably perpetuated the distinguished traditions of his family. He was educated at Columbia College, where he graduated in 1793, second in his class. He then entered the counting-house of John Murray, intending to be a merchant. On the death of his father he was compelled to return home as acting executor of his estate, a task involving the support of a large circle of dependents, and requiring assiduous labor and much acquaintance with law. In 1806, when about thirty years of age, he was elected a member of the legislature, and was reelected eight successive years; again from 1815 to 1819, and afterward in 1827-28. He was a Federalist of the school of Washington and Hamilton. In 1806 he was appointed one of five commissioners to settle the boundaries and jurisdiction of the states of New York and New Jersey. In 1827 this commission was renewed, and he was again made a member. With Theodore Frelinghuysen and L. Q. C. Elmer he signed the treaty between said states of New York and New Jersey, September 16, 1833. In 1829 he was made collector of Perth Amboy, then a place of much commerce. In 1832 and again in 1834 he was elected to congress, serving





*James Parkin*





two terms with much distinction. In 1844 he was elected a member of the convention for the formation of a new constitution for New Jersey. Thus he was engaged in legislation during at least seventeen years of his life, while he also served a long period as mayor of Amboy.

Though never one of the party of the majority in any of the legislative bodies mentioned, he was always a leading and influential member. He inaugurated the system of public schools in New Jersey, suggesting and following up the idea in different legislatures from 1809 to 1817, and the act, drawn by him, to create a fund for free schools, became a law. Afterward, in the constitutional convention, this subject received his careful attention, and at his instance the New Jersey constitution provided that "It shall not be competent for the legislature to borrow, appropriate, or use the said fund (for the support of common schools), or any part thereof, for any purpose, under any pretense whatever." He was the author of the attachment law; the law enabling aliens to hold land in the state; the law authorizing commissioners to take proof, etc., of deeds; the law prohibiting, under severe penalties, the exportation of slaves from the state, thus ending the domestic slave trade in New Jersey; and of laws for the suppression of intemperance, for aiding internal improvements, encouraging manufacturers, for putting habitual drunkards under guardianship, and others of similar importance. In the constitutional convention he reported the bill of rights. He was a principal advocate for the construction of the Delaware and Raritan canal, and a director of that company for nearly forty years. His last year's service in the legislature was undertaken with this enterprise in view.

In congress he was known as a leading practical member, a strong "tariff man," a defender of the right of petition, aiding John Quincy Adams in the struggle for the admission of petitions praying the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and was celebrated for outspoken sincerity and honesty.

He was for years a trustee of the two colleges, Princeton and Rutgers, and to the latter gave the land whereon the college buildings were erected. In the Protestant Episcopal diocesan conventions, as well as in his own church in Amboy, he was prominent and active. He was from the beginning a vice-president, and for years before his death president, of the New Jersey Historical Society. He closed his long life in 1868, having attained the age of ninety-two years and one month.

Renowned for purity of character and an intense love for usefulness, independent though earnest in his support of what he thought right, rather than what was expedient, never giving up to party what was meant for mankind, never an aspirant for office and valuing only that popularity which follows a good man, practicing warm-hearted charity in thought, word, and deed, and always evincing an ability more than adequate for all he undertook,—such are the qualities which characterized him and which are attributed to him in the memorial address (before the New Jersey Historical Society) from which this brief sketch is chiefly compiled.

Cortlandt Parker, the distinguished lawyer, son of the preceding, was born at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, June 27, 1818. That he does not fall behind any of his illustrious line in character and attainments is manifest when it is considered that he stands confessedly at the head of the bar of the state of New Jersey. Not merely has he figured in the most prominent litigations, served the state in many important capacities and refused a remarkable number of high official positions, but he has also represented his profession in literature to a marked degree. He is the author of such papers and addresses as: *The Moral Guilt of the Rebellion* (1862); *Philip Kearny, Soldier and Patriot* (1863); *Our Triumphs and Our Duties* (1865); *New Jersey: Her Present and Future* (1870); *Abraham Lincoln* (1872); *The Open Bible, or Tolerant Christianity* (1876); *Alexander Hamilton and William Paterson* (1880); *the Three Successful Generals of the Army of the Potomac,—McClellan, Meade, and Grant*; *Justice Joseph P. Bradley* (1893); and many others treating similar themes.

Mr. Parker has served as president of the American Bar Association. While he has held only one public office,—that of prosecutor of pleas for Essex county, New Jersey, during the ten years from 1857 to 1867,—yet this has been due solely to his persistence in refusing, one after another, the most honorable positions. In 1857 his name was brought before the state legislature for the office of chancellor; he was twice proposed for attorney-general of New Jersey; a justiceship on the supreme bench of the same commonwealth was offered him; President Grant solicited him to accept a judgeship in the court for settling the Alabama claims; President Hayes tendered him the post of minister to Russia; President Arthur offered him the mission to Vienna; a Republican convention nominated him for congress,—but all these honors were declined. It is doubtful if such an instance can be duplicated.

All the considerations thus cited, as being outside the strict lines of his profession, are of the more significance in estimating the peculiar prominence which Mr. Parker enjoys. In the actual practice of law he has figured in litigations of the greatest magnitude, although this feature cannot be entered here. The famous Meeker will case, however, which was carried through the various juris-

dictions to the United States courts, may be mentioned as one in which Mr. Parker distinguished himself when comparatively a young man, against such opposing counsel as Justice Bradley of the United States supreme court, Governor Pennington, United States Senator Dayton, and Chancellor Halsted. He also upheld the commerce and navigation interests of Newark in the litigation to prevent the erection of two bridges across the Passaic river, involving the constitutional question whether "tidal waters leading to a port could be obstructed under authority of a state legislature." Again, in the famous Lease case, Mr. Parker helped to secure to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company the right to acquire the United Railroad and Canal Companies of New Jersey; while he successfully represented the Morris & Essex Railroad in its contest with the Erie for the occupation of the tunnel leading to New York. After this he became the Erie counsel for New Jersey, a post he has held since 1873. Very lately (1894) he was senior counsel in suits of great public note, the result of one of which was to prevent future gerrymanders by a construction of the state constitution requiring election to the lower house by counties instead of districts; that of the other was breaking the deadlock in the New Jersey senate. These few cases are cited as merely indicative of the important nature of Mr. Parker's private practice.

Another characteristic is yet to be noticed,—his readiness, while refusing personal honors, to undertake the most onerous duties where it is purely a question of subserving the public interests. Thus after referring to Mr. Parker's persistent declination of political positions, Judge Ricord adds: "His legal knowledge and experience were, however, never withheld from the state when, upon important occasions, they were demanded. The difficult task of revising the laws was assigned to him, jointly with Chief-Justice Beasley and Justice Depue, by the legislature, and was performed to the satisfaction of the courts and the people. He served also as a commissioner to settle the disputed boundary lines between New Jersey and Delaware. To him is the state mainly indebted for the passage of the general railroad law, which has been the means of ridding it of its abundant sources of corruption. In such and other ways has Mr. Parker rendered to the state services which are not commonly known to many, and to the publicity of which he has always seemed indifferent. But not to the state alone has he given the benefit of his legal attainments and his experience. The Protestant Episcopal church, with which he is connected, numbers him among its most valued laymen, and to its diocesan convention he is year after year a chosen delegate; while he has been a member likewise at the General Convention six times."\*

It is an interesting fact that Mr. Parker's preëminence among his fellows dates from boyhood. At fourteen years of age he entered Rutgers College, graduating four years later (1836) as valedictorian of his class.† He studied law in the office of Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, father of one of his classmates, and later with Hon. Amzi Armstrong, and was admitted to the bar in 1839.

Mr. Parker takes rank as one of the most prominent figures in that remarkable group of jurists and lawyers whose advent must ever mark a sort of golden age in the history of the judiciary of New Jersey.

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\* The National Magazine, February-March, 1894.

† Mr. Parker's class was a remarkable one, containing, according to Judge Ricord, "Joseph S. Bradley, late justice of the United States supreme court; Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, late secretary of state of the United States; William A. Newell, formerly governor of New Jersey; Henry Waldron, long member of congress from Michigan; Professor Coakley, of New York University, and several doctors of divinity in the Reformed Dutch church."—Ibid.





*Conrad Parker*







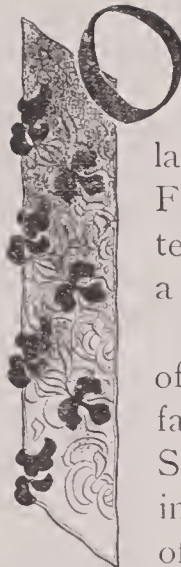


Yours truly  
Sam. H. Aldrich.



## CHARLES H. ALDRICH,

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.



ONE of the distinguished yet peculiarly unassuming members of the Chicago bar, Mr. Aldrich has achieved his splendid success by a systematic application of his abilities to the profession of his choice,—a profession that always demands as the price of success a large measure of veritable talent, a distinctive intellectuality and a vast amount of hard work. Finely educated and of studious habits, his erudition is of most comprehensive scope, his technical knowledge of the law and its application unassailable. His position as a man and a lawyer is such as to clearly entitle him to representation in this compilation.

Mr. Aldrich is a native of Indiana, having been born in La Grange county, on the 26th of August, 1850, the son of Hamilton M. and Harriet (Sherwood) Aldrich. He lived on a farm until he had attained the age of sixteen years, when his father removed to Orland, Steuben county, Indiana, for the purpose of placing his children in an excellent school then in existence in that village. The subject of this review was a delicate, fragile-looking boy, of studious habits and fond of reading, and when taken from the outdoor life of the farm to the confinement of the school, his health became so uncertain that his father concluded that the boy could not survive the education promised him, and that he would be unable to follow the profession of law, to which he looked forward. The father therefore refused to send him to the university, whereupon the son left home and worked for his board until he had not only finished his preparation for college, but had completed a portion of the college course. A kind friend became interested in the ambitious and gifted youth, and insisted upon advancing to him a financial loan adequate to meet the expenses during the last half of the college course. He later made further advances, in order to enable Mr. Aldrich to continue his professional studies and enter the practice of law without losing time in teaching. The record made by the youth pursuing his studies under such circumstances was, of course, a highly creditable one. In 1875 he completed the classical course in the University of Michigan, and some time subsequent to his graduation his *alma mater* conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

Mr. Aldrich began the practice of his profession at Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he remained until April, 1886, when he removed to Chicago. It is safe to say that in these early years no man of his age practicing at the Indiana bar had a higher reputation as a lawyer and a gentleman, or was more esteemed by the older lawyers and by the bench. He enjoyed the confidence and friendship of such men as Thomas A. Hendricks, Colonel Abram Hendricks, Benjamin Harrison, W. H. H. Miller, Joseph E. McDonald, John M. Butler, Oscar B. Hord, Noble E. Butler, W. P. Fishback, R. S. Taylor, Allen Zollars and others,—many of whom had then or have since acquired national reputation. In Chicago Mr. Aldrich soon took high rank as an able and successful lawyer. He is modest and retiring, adhering to the old views of professional ethics, which discountenance all manner of advertising and self-adulation. He is a public-spirited citizen, always ready to support real reforms of existing abuses in the law or its administration and to encourage and support institutions designed to aid his fellow men. He prefers to do this modestly, and his actions are ever unobtrusive. There is no effort on his part to assume leadership; his tastes lead him to choose a quiet life of work in his profession, of study and of reflection. His home, his profession and the questions of the day, covering a wide range of study, absorb him, and in these he finds his greatest enjoyment. Few men have a more intimate knowledge of the history of the country or its public men, or have devoted more time to the study of the social and economic questions of the times.

In 1890 Mr. Aldrich was appointed special counsel for the United States in its Pacific railroad litigations growing out of the so-called Anderson act. He was successful in both cases, which he argued in the circuit courts of the United States for Nebraska and California, and these successes, opposed as he was by some of the leading counsel of the Union, led to his selection as solicitor-general of the United States, to succeed William H. Taft, who was, in 1891, appointed a judge of the United States court of appeals. Mr. Aldrich retained the incumbency as solicitor-general until June, 1893, and, with no reference to party affiliations, there was a consensus of opinion as to the manner in which he administered the affairs of this exacting office,—and that was that the same had never been more ably filled. In a brief time he impressed himself upon the country as an able lawyer and a fearless and conservative administrative officer. The Chinese-exclusion, Hat-trimmings, the Cherokee and other cases gave evidence of his power as a lawyer; and while defeat came in one of these, a justice of the supreme court has said that the argument was one of the most masterly he ever heard, and that unfortunate precedents alone were responsible for the result.

The opinion prepared by Mr. Aldrich upon the power of the national government in matters of public health and quarantine regulations, and also that upon the scope and effect of the election law, showed a broad grasp and met the cordial approval of those of the legal profession who were conversant with the questions, while his opinion that the administration might issue bonds to maintain resumption and keep the money of the United States at a parity has been practically adopted and was acted upon during Mr. Cleveland's second administration.

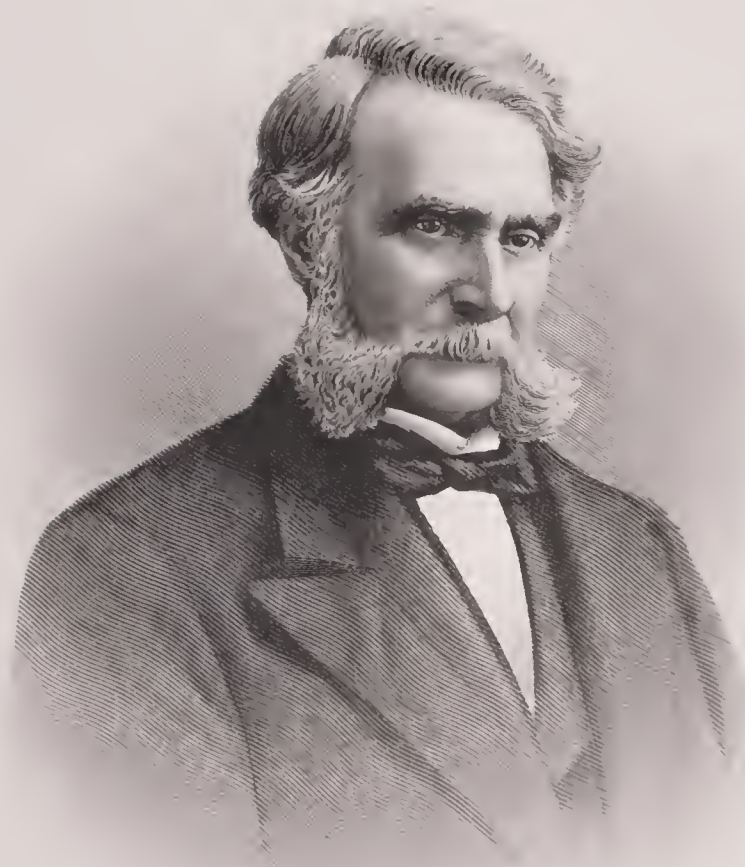
Since his retirement from the office of solicitor-general Mr. Aldrich has been twice retained by the United States,—once, through Attorney-General Olney, in the Sunday-closing case of the World's Columbian Exposition; and once by Attorney-General Harmon, in the suit to cancel the Berliner patent, against the Bell Telephone Company. Mr. Aldrich has a large practice, mainly in the federal courts, and is constantly engaged in causes where he is opposed by the leaders of the bar of the country.

Mr. Aldrich is an earnest adherent of the Republican party, is a member and trustee of the First Presbyterian church of Evanston, a member and has been first vice-president of the Union League Club of Chicago, and is a member of the Country Club of Evanston. He is also identified with the American Bar Association; the Illinois State Bar Association, of which he has been first vice-president; the Chicago Bar Association; and the Lawyers' Club of New York city. He was also a member of the central council of the Civic Federation of Chicago, and was chairman of the committee which prepared a new charter for the city. This proposed charter has gained praise from those who have given much attention to the principles of municipal government, but it has not as yet received the approval of the legislature of the state.

On the 13th of October, 1875, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Aldrich to Miss Helen Roberts, and they are the parents of three children. In vigorous health, enjoying a large and lucrative practice, esteemed by all who know him, blessed with happy domestic relations and those aids by which a home may be made beautiful, the subject of this sketch may well be termed a fortunate and successful man.





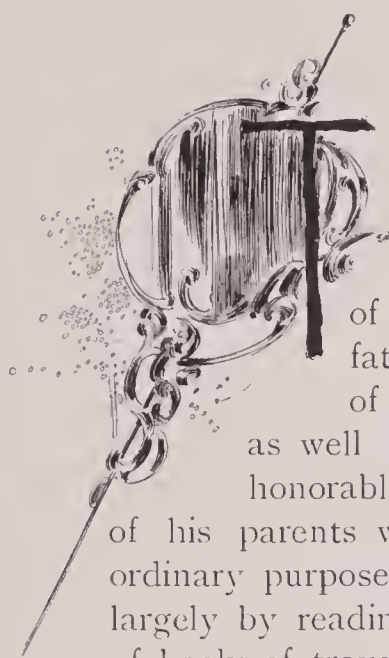


*W. B. Reddie*



## THOMAS B. PEDDIE,

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.



THOMAS B. PEDDIE, one of the most enterprising and successful of the citizens of Newark, New Jersey, began his business career in that place in 1833, before it had been incorporated as a city. Mr. Peddie was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and this was also the birthplace of his parents, who were persons of more than ordinary intelligence, of great industry, and of remarkable piety, his father being somewhat noted as a religious exhorter. To the example and influence of such estimable parents was young Peddie indebted for his habits of industry, as well as for his self-reliance and his reverence for everything that is essential to an honorable and pious life. Such advantages for an education as were within the means of his parents were accorded to him, and, though not great, they were quite sufficient for the ordinary purposes of life. To the acquisitions made by him as a schoolboy he subsequently added largely by reading and by contact with his fellow men as he increased in years. He was fond of books of travel and of the accounts of foreign lands given in the newspapers of the day. His desire to visit America was thus aroused, and having at last, through his own industry, acquired sufficient means to gratify his desire, he left his native land for the United States, not quite decided, however, to make it his permanent home.

In 1833, as already stated, he found himself in Newark, New Jersey, a place which he had been induced to visit on account of the rapid growth of its manufacturing interests. Not intending to be an idle looker-on, but determined rather to obtain a thorough knowledge of the new people among whom he had fallen, he visited the various factories of the place, and finally applied for employment in the great saddlery establishment of Messrs. Smith & Wright, the latter of whom became subsequently a senator of the United States. He bore about him no other commendation than his honest face and manly ways, but these sufficed to gain him a desirable position in this extensive factory. Here he remained two years, when, having become familiar with the business ways of the land in which he had now concluded to make a permanent home, he resolved to test his own business abilities as an operator and financier. Accordingly he undertook, in a modest way, the manufacture of leather trunks and carpetbags. Success attended him beyond his expectations, and a large and lucrative business seemed to await him in no distant future. For ten years he continued to manage alone his rapidly extending operations. In 1846 he found it necessary, however, to take a business partner to assist him in his labors, especially in keeping his books and attending to his growing correspondence. For this important service he selected Mr. John Morrison, who subsequently proved himself to be one of Newark's most estimable and patriotic citizens. This partnership continued until 1861, when Mr. Morrison died. On Mr. Peddie alone again devolved the care of his immense establishment, and to it he gave his undivided attention; but the burden being more than he could long carry unassisted, he sought aid eventually from one of his most esteemed and accomplished assistants, Mr. George B. Jenkinson, whose familiarity with every department of the complicated works relieved Mr. Peddie of much of his labor and finally resulted in a partnership between them, under the firm name of T. B. Peddie & Company. Under this name the business was conducted until the death of its founder.

For many years prior to his decease, and, indeed, until within a short time before that event, Mr. Peddie was active in discharge of all the duties of a good and patriotic citizen. His interests led him, of course, to take a prominent part in the conduct of the moneyed institutions of the city, in

many of which he was an influential director. But even where personal interest did not call him he was equally earnest and active. In almost every important public movement he was among the leaders, aiding by his advice as well as by his purse. Of the board of trade of the city of Newark he was a most efficient member, at one time its president and at all times an earnest participant in its proceedings.

It was undoubtedly the sterling honesty of Mr. Peddie which pointed him out as a desirable man to be placed in public positions of great responsibility. It was this that sent him, in 1863 and 1864, to the state legislature, where, as a member of the general assembly, he gave valuable support

to the general government during the war of the Rebellion, and by his influence and contributions did good service in behalf of the Union. During the period of four years, 1866-9, he was mayor of Newark, an office which he filled with credit to himself and advantage to the city. In 1876 he represented the sixth congressional district of New Jersey in the forty-fifth congress. On the expiration of his term he declined further nomination.

Without making any pretense of learning, Mr. Peddie appreciated fully the value of a good education, and this is shown by the interest which he took in building up the flourishing academy in Hightstown, New Jersey, to which was given, in honor of him, the name of Peddie Institute. He was one of the early promoters of the Newark Technical School, an institution for which the city of Newark is mainly indebted to its board of trade, by which body the first steps were taken for its establishment, with Mr. Peddie as chairman of the committee having charge of the enterprise. For many years he was a trustee for the Newark City Home, a school to which he gave much attention. Of all benevolent



PEDDIE MEMORIAL CHURCH.

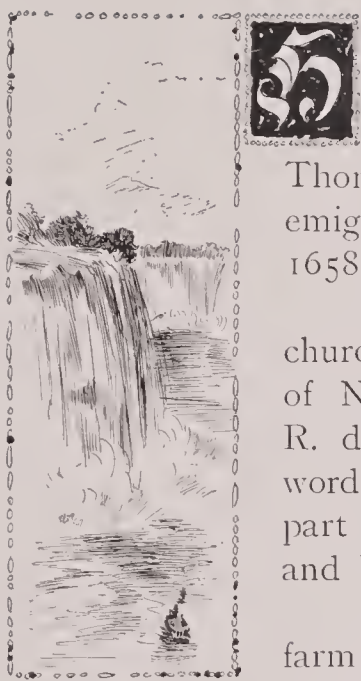
enterprises he was a supporter, ever ready to advance them by contributing of his means as well as by his personal services.

On Newark's principal thoroughfare, nearly facing one of its beautiful parks, stands a house of worship, built of gray granite, in Byzantine style of architecture, and capable of seating three thousand worshipers. It is called the Peddie Memorial, and was the gift of this beneficent man to the congregation with which he connected himself when, as a youth, he came to Newark, and with which he continued to worship throughout his long and useful career. The erection of this massive pile was the last work of Mr. Peddie's life. It is one of Newark's noblest structures, but he did not live to see it completed. The name given to it was never suggested until after his death, which occurred February 16, 1889. All of Mr. Peddie's designs in regard to the construction and appointments of this edifice were fully carried out by his estimable widow, who followed him into eternal rest three years afterward. She also complied with another wish on his part by giving to the church valuable property, in New York city and elsewhere, which yields it a handsome revenue.



# HENRY T. WELLES,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.



**H**ENRY TITUS WELLES was born in the town of Glastonbury, Hartford county, Connecticut, on the 3d day of April, 1821. He was one of an old New England family of Puritan stock and a lineal descendant of Governor Thomas Welles, who was born in Northamptonshire, England, in the year 1598 and emigrated to New England in 1636. He was governor of Connecticut in 1656 and 1658, and held other important public offices.

For many centuries the Welles family has been prominent in the affairs of church and state in England and the United States. The family is supposed to be of Norman origin. One of the names inscribed on the roll of Battle Abbey was R. de Euille, which is thought to be that of an ancestor of the English Welles, the word having the same meaning. This family is traced in Normandy to the latter part of the eighth century, from which time they held the highest rank, personally and by royal intermarriages.

The infancy and boyhood of Henry T. Welles were passed on the paternal farm and in academic studies until he entered Trinity College, Hartford, where he graduated in 1843. His early educational advantages were of the best and he displayed rare ability as a student. Among his classmates and fellow students were many who have since become famous, particularly Thomas S. Preston, formerly private secretary of Archbishop Hughes, but afterward vicar-general of the arch-diocese of New York; also William E. Curtis, chief justice of the superior court of New York; and the Hon. Henry S. Sanford, minister to Belgium.

During the college vacations he assisted in labor on the farm, and the first ten years after leaving college were largely spent in his native town and in tilling the broad acres of the family homestead, though interspersed with duties of a private character. His father, although not wealthy, was in very comfortable circumstances, and though Henry assisted materially in manual labor he was not compelled to devote all of his time to work on the farm. He studied law, and in 1845 was admitted to the bar of Hartford county. In 1850 he was honored with a seat in the legislature of his native state, affiliating with the Whig party. Having already married, he moved to St. Anthony, Minnesota, in 1853, and became interested in the lumber business and in other industries, and also invested largely in real estate. He operated all of the eight sawmills then running at the Falls. The market for lumber was precarious and the business did not prove sufficiently remunerative or to his taste, and he soon gave it up and invested a considerable sum in real estate, acquiring, among other properties, a share in the claim which Colonel John H. Stevens had entered on the west side of the river, and to this he removed in 1856. This property, retained and improved, and administered with care but with liberality, became the foundation of one of the largest fortunes in the city.

It did not require any great length of time for the citizens of St. Anthony to learn that Mr. Welles was a man of ability and integrity, and he soon became a leader among his fellow citizens. In 1855 he was elected the first mayor of St. Anthony. He thus became the first head of a municipal government in what is now Minneapolis, and is thus entitled to the proud distinction of being the father of the city of Minneapolis.

The first bridge that spanned the Mississippi river was built in 1855, by the Mississippi Bridge Company, of which Mr. Welles and Mr. Franklin Steele were proprietors. Eight months were spent in its construction, and when completed it was dismantled by a gale, on March 19, 1855. On the



4th of July following, the first team that ever drove over the Mississippi river on a bridge crossed over on this structure. The public spirit of Mr. Welles and Mr. Steele was amply rewarded, for two years later the tolls from the bridge amounted to twelve thousand five hundred dollars per annum.

Mr. Welles was president of the first town council, which convened in Minneapolis on July 20, 1858. In 1863 he was unanimously nominated by the Democratic party for the governorship of the state, but was defeated at the election. The ability of Mr. Welles was again recognized by the citizens, who repeatedly chose him to represent their interests in Washington. In their interests he coöperated, in the winter of 1854-5, with Franklin Steele and Dr. A. E. Ames, and they succeeded in reducing the military reservation and opening the lands on the west side of the river to settlement and purchase. He was called to Washington in the winter of 1856-7, in company with Richard Chute, to aid Delegate Henry M. Rice in procuring the passage of the land-grant act of that year.

He has always shown commendable public spirit, and the numerous railroads that have so materially aided in developing the city found in him a firm friend. In 1853, when he was running his sawmills in St. Anthony, the water power failed and he built the first dam across the Mississippi river,—a "horse-and-slab" affair,—which raised the water two feet. He constructed this in ten days, and it was the local wonder of the time.

One of the most important of the services rendered to Minneapolis by Mr. Welles was in laboring to influence the citizens of Minneapolis to vote aid to provide some means to prevent the falls from wearing away. Mr. Welles had collected valuable data regarding the falls, and proved that the rock formation of the falls had already been eroded to the extent of two feet. The majority of the citizens were opposed to giving any substantial aid, arguing that it would benefit only the mill companies. Mr. Welles arose in mass meeting and presented an array of undeniable facts, and when he had finished his arguments and a vote was taken, there was but one person who objected. Through his efforts an apron that protects the falls was constructed. This saving of the falls probably did more to enhance the material prosperity of Minneapolis than all other improvements combined. The facts as to the falls of St. Anthony, which have never been fully and accurately stated in print, are: The bed of magnesium limestone, over which the river flows at that place, rests on another bed of white sandstone, several hundred feet in depth and consisting of both soft and hard strata. The ice, water and logs in the river plunging over the down-river end of the limestone had worn away the sandstone and undermined the limestone, so that the latter was continually falling off into the abyss below. The limestone was only twelve feet in thickness at the down-river end, and two feet at the up-river end, the distance between the two ends being about one thousand feet. The upper surface of the limestone, by actual measurements, had been irregularly worn off as much as two feet in depth in the course of twelve years. It was apparent that unless this process was checked the perpendicular fall would be lost, and instead thereof only rapids would remain. The only remedy was an apron to protect the limestone from being undermined. The mill companies could not bear the expense. Hence the city was called upon for aid. All the facts were presented in the meeting referred to, and at the close all save one person voted in favor of lending the credit of the two cities of St. Anthony Falls and Minneapolis to the extent of about one hundred thousand dollars. Other difficulties were afterward encountered, but all of them were overcome. The falls are now in a permanent condition.

As a financier Mr. Welles has been a recognized leader for more than a third of a century. He assisted in the organization of the Northwestern National Bank and acted as its president for twelve and a half years. The high place this institution holds is largely due to his efforts. He also assisted in organizing the Farmers' & Mechanics' Savings Bank of Minneapolis, and for many years was prominent in its management and its affairs.

Mr. Welles has contributed liberally to religious and educational institutions. To the Faribault institutions, which else would hardly have survived, he has donated fully seventy thousand dollars. His recognized ability as a financier, and the high order of managerial talent which he has always displayed, led a prominent member of the board of trustees of Trinity College to request him to become a candidate for the presidency of that institution, which at that time controlled property valued at one million three hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Welles, being already committed to the Faribault institutions, and having too many interests in the northwest to permit of his leaving Minneapolis, was forced to decline to entertain the offer.

The different religious denominations of Minneapolis have been bountifully aided by him. He has donated fully twenty thousand dollars from his private purse to aid them in their different fields of labor, and, together with Franklin Steele, with whom he had been associated in business from July 1, 1853, until the death of Mr. Steele, on September 10, 1880, he has donated property worth now



(1897) fully four hundred thousand dollars. To St. Mark's church (Episcopal) they donated seventy feet at the corner of Hennepin avenue and Fourth street, the site now occupied by the Kasota building. To the First Baptist church they gave a lot sixty-six feet front by one hundred and sixty-five feet deep, at the corner of Third street and Nicollet avenue, which was exchanged for the property on which the Lumber Exchange building is located. To the Second Baptist church the donation was one hundred and four and two-thirds feet on Washington street and one hundred and sixty-two feet on First avenue north. To the Episcopal and Catholic churches Mr. Welles has given more than twenty thousand dollars, to which might be added numerous donations of large and small sums to hospitals, churches, educational institutions and other worthy objects.

Probably the most significant act of this busy life,—at least that which has contributed in the greatest degree to the prosperity of the city,—was his conception of, and coöperation in building, the Minneapolis & Duluth and the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railways. In the railroad-land-grant act the line of railroad provided for the Minnesota valley had two terminal lines diverging from a point of junction near Shakopee,—the one terminating at St. Paul and the other at St. Anthony. The public lands granted for the line were equally applicable to each branch, but the control of the road fell into the hands of the St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad Company, the managing and controlling owners of which were residents of St. Paul. The line was built from St. Paul, and the St. Anthony branch was neglected, although lands equitably belonging to it were appropriated.

Mr. Welles deliberately determined that, with or without public lands, the line should be built. Calling upon the president of the St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad, he was informed that the company had no purpose to build the line to St. Anthony and would not do so. He then informed President Drake that in such an event the people of Minneapolis would build it, and if not allowed a coöperating road they would provide a rival one. The derisive smile with which President Drake received the announcement showed how futile he regarded the attempt. The Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad Company was organized, Mr. Welles being one of its directors and the first president. With the cordial coöperation of the people of Minneapolis, seconded by his co-directors, the construction of the line was undertaken and it was soon opened from White Bear lake to St. Anthony, and from Minneapolis to the junction with the St. Paul & Sioux City road, and, crossing that line, was extended southerly to the state line and on into the state of Iowa and westward into Dakota. Not only this, but in process of time the line from St. Paul to the point of junction was abandoned for through traffic, and the derided St. Anthony line became the main line of the St. Paul road. By this magnificent enterprise the prestige of Minneapolis was preserved and her lumber and milling industries facilitated; and instead of sinking to a subordinate position she soon outstripped, in population and business, her rival city.



RESIDENCE OF H. T. WELLES, MINNEAPOLIS.

At the organization of the park commission Mr. Welles was appointed one of the board of park commissioners; but after the act had been submitted and ratified by the people and safely launched on its beneficent career, he declined to serve. He formerly had large interests in Wilkin county, Minnesota, and from the date of the organization of the county contributed generously to the village of Breckenridge, its county seat. Among his donations may be mentioned a quarter of a block for school purposes, an entire block for the site of the present handsome court-house, which cost forty thousand dollars, and lots amounting to an entire block for churches of various denominations. In addition to the above, a few years ago Mr. Welles presented to the village about one hundred acres of land adjoining the village, which is now known as Welles Park and Fair Grounds, and which is used for county fairs and similar purposes, being equipped with fair buildings, race-track, etc. The value of this bequest is estimated at ten thousand dollars. Since the donation of this tract of land, Mr. Wells has presented to the village lots and real-estate mortgages to the value of nine hundred and sixty dollars, the proceeds of which are to be used for the planting of trees and otherwise beautifying the park and fair-ground.

On May 3, 1853, Mr. Welles was united in matrimony with Jerusha, daughter of Joseph Lord,

of Glastonbury, Connecticut. They have six children, viz.: Henrietta, Catherine J., Henry H., Harriet L., Caroline E. and Frances S.

Mr. Welles has retired from active business, but by no means from the oversight of his large interests, or from an active participation in the religious, educational and material growth of the city and state. His appearance on the street, upright, dignified and robust, attracts the attention even of strangers as that of one preëminently a leader among men. He has always been noted for his dominating influence upon other men. With a tenacious memory, a method of clearness of statement, and conciliating and winning manner, he seldom fails to impress his ideas upon others and influence them to act in conformity with his views.

An intimate friend says of Mr. Welles: "He has always been a student, and few men have a better knowledge of English literature. He is a profound thinker and especially interested in philosophical studies. He is a most generous man, always ready to give to works of benevolence. No man in Minnesota has taken a warmer interest in the founding of the schools at Faribault. During the infancy of these schools he was the wise counselor and steadfast friend of Bishop Whipple, and has been a trustee from the date of their organization, over thirty years ago. He is a communicant of the Episcopal church, honored and beloved by all who know him, as an upright man of unsullied reputation, an earnest Christian and a wise and generous philanthropist. In manner he is retiring and modest, preferring the society of friends and the endearments of home to the honors of his fellows. In a word, Mr. Welles is one of those who try to live by the old prophet's law, 'Do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with thy God.'"



















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